



4 dead, including suspect, after Maryland warehouse shooting

Shirley Pollack, of Perryville, Md. reacts to what authorities have called a shooting with multiple victims in Perryman, Md. on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018.

Associated Press

By DAVID McFADDEN and
MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

ABERDEEN, Md. (AP) — A woman working a temporary job at a drugstore warehouse in Maryland got into an argument at work Thursday morning and began shooting colleagues,

killing three before fatally turning the gun on herself, authorities and witnesses said. Workers at the Rite Aide distribution center in northeastern Maryland described terrifying moments of "crazy" gunfire and people screaming and running in all directions after the shooting. Others said

they helped the wounded, one person tying blood-soaked jeans around a man's injured leg in a bid to stop the bleeding. Harford County Sheriff Jeffrey Gahler said at a news conference that the woman was later identified as a temporary employee of the distribution center,

Snochia Moseley of Baltimore County. "She had reported for her workday as usual, and around 9 a.m. the shooting began, striking victims both outside the business and inside the facility," Gahler said. "We do not at this time have a motive for this senseless crime."

Krystal Watson, 33, said her husband, Eric, works at the facility and told her that the suspect had been arguing with somebody else near a time clock after a "town hall meeting." "And she went off," she said.

Continued on Page 3

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U.S.: Possible October talks with North Korea on war remains

By ROBERT BURNS

AP National Security Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) —

The U.S. hopes to begin face-to-face negotiations with North Korea next month on terms for resuming on-the-ground searches in North Korea for remains of American servicemen, a senior Pentagon official said Thursday.

Kelly McKeague, director of the Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency, said the aim is to begin searches at former battlefields next spring if agreement can be reached on areas of current dispute such as the types and amounts of compensation to North Korea for its assistance.

Remains of two American servicemen killed during the Korean War and returned by North Korea two months ago were identified by President Donald Trump on Thursday, as Army Master Sgt. Charles H. McDaniel, 32, of Vernon, Indiana, and Army Pfc. William H. Jones, 19, of Nash County, North Carolina.

McDaniel's name had already been made public last month because his



Vice President Mike Pence, left, gestures to an American flag that was used during the return of remains from the Korean War in Hawaii in August 2018, while presenting it to the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018, during a ceremony at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington.

Associated Press

military identification tag was among the 55 boxes of remains that North Korea turned over on July 27. The tag was turned over to his sons. These are the first two service members identified from those remains.

"These HEROES are home, they may Rest In Peace,

and hopefully their families can have closure," Trump tweeted.

Also Thursday, Vice President Mike Pence spoke about the remains recovery during remarks to the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, but he did not reveal the names of the two who have been identified. He presented the foundation with an American flag that was among those draped over the 55 boxes from North Korea.

He said he hoped the re-

mains from the 55 boxes are "a vanguard of what's to come" from future recoveries of war dead in North Korea. The U.S. conducted excavations in North Korea from 1996 to 2005 but suspended them amid rising political and military tensions on the Korean peninsula.

McKeague said it was unclear how many individuals are contained in the 55 boxes, but he said it could be dozens more than 55. He described the bones as a "mish-mash" that will require

DNA analysis and other extensive study. The first two identifications came relatively quickly, he said, because the remains included partial skulls with teeth that could be matched to dental records, as well as clavicles matched to military X-ray records.

The remains contained in the 55 boxes had been stored by the North Korean army, probably for decades. Thousands of additional remains are believed to lie on North Korean battlefields and at former POW camps. McKeague said the Pentagon would like to send search and excavation teams into the country as early as next spring if acceptable arrangements can be negotiated in advance.

North Korea recently submitted proposed terms for follow-on search operations, but McKeague said the offer was rejected. He described the offer as "out of sorts," which he said meant that some elements were unreasonable. He cited as an example a demand that the U.S. provide eight ambulances in addition to other vehicles, fuel, food and other items.

The U.S. is preparing a counterproposal, McKeague said, and has offered to meet with a North Korean negotiating team in a third country in late October. □

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Envoy: US, Canada working 24/7 on revamped NAFTA deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. and Canadian negotiators are working around the clock on a deal to keep Canada in a North American trade bloc ahead of a Sept. 30 U.S. deadline.

"Our officials are in pretty much constant contact," Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland told reporters after meetings Thursday with her counterpart, U.S. Trade Rep. Robert Lighthizer. "It would not be an exaggeration to say they are working 24/7."

Freeland is returning to

Canada for a summit of women foreign ministers Friday but said she and Lighthizer remain in close contact by phone and email.

Canada was left out when the United States and Mexico reached an agreement last month to revamp the North American Free Trade Agreement. Freeland is trying to get the No. 2 U.S. trade partner reinstated. The countries are under pressure to reach a deal by the end of the month, when Lighthizer must make public a copy of the full text of the agreement with Mexi-

co. Until then, he has time to bring Canada back into the regional trading bloc. Freeland shrugged off the Sept. 30 deadline, saying she cared only about "getting a deal that is good for Canada and good for Canadians."

Jerry Dias, president of the Canadian private-sector union Unifor, expressed "guarded optimism" about the talks.

The U.S., he said, "is now recognizing that there is not going to be a deal" if it does not make some concessions to Canada. □

MARYLAND

Continued from Front

"She didn't have a particular target. She was just shooting," Watson said as she drove away from a fire station where relatives tried to reunite with loved ones. The sheriff said the call about shots fired came in at about 9:06 a.m. and deputies and other officers were on the scene in just over five minutes. The shooting began outside the business and continued inside, he said.

It appears only one weapon was used — a 9 mm Glock handgun that was registered in Moseley's name — and no shots were fired by responding law enforcement officers, Gahler said.

Walter Zambrano, 64, who described himself as a worker at the distribution center, said he was in the bathroom when shooting broke out and saw nothing as he hid, frightened for his life.

The person was "shooting like crazy," Zambrano said, speaking in Spanish.

He said the gunfire seemed to go on several minutes, and when it was over he sprinted outdoors.

On the way out, he said he saw a female co-worker down on the floor. The scene, he said, was one of chaos.

"Everyone was screaming, running this way and that. I didn't know which way to run," he said.

The sheriff said three victims were fatally shot and three more were wounded but were expected to survive. They were not immediately identified. Moseley died at a hospital from a self-inflicted gunshot wound, Gahler said.

Area hospitals reported receiving five patients from the incident.

Susan Henderson, spokeswoman for the drugstore chain Rite Aid, described the building where the shooting took place as a support facility adjacent to a larger building. The company said in a statement that the facility had been closed temporarily and grief counselors will be made available to workers. The company didn't immediately respond to an inquiry about Moseley's employ-



FBI agents walk at the industrial business park, where several people had been shot, according with police reports in Harford County, Md., in Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018.

Associated Press

ment history.

Mike Carre, an employee of a furniture logistics operation next to the distribution center, said he helped tend to a wounded man who came hobbling in, bleeding from his leg. He called 911 from a bathroom before helping colleagues wrap the man's blood-soaked jeans above his injury to cut off blood flow.

Carre said the man told him the shooter "just came in in a bad mood this morning. He said she's usually nice.

But today, I guess it wasn't her day. She just came in to pick a fight with someone." "She pulled out a gun and she just started shooting at her co-workers."

Harford County Executive Barry Glassman said that, unfortunately, incidents like this are "becoming a too-often occurrence not only in Harford County but in the country."

The attack came nearly three months after a man armed with a shotgun attacked a newspaper office in Annapolis, Maryland,

killing five staff members. Authorities accused Jarrod W. Ramos of attacking The Capital Gazette because of a longstanding grudge against the paper.

It came less than a year after a fatal workplace shooting less than 10 miles (16 kilometers) from the warehouse, in which five were shot, three fatally.

And it followed another shooting Wednesday in Wisconsin in which authorities say a gunman shot four co-workers before being killed by responding offi-

cers.

On Thursday, 33-year-old Dominique Norton of Aberdeen, endured an excruciating wait of nearly two hours to be reunited with her mother, 62-year-old warehouse worker Irene Norton. Dominique Norton said she didn't know that her mother was unharmed until she got off a bus at the fire station and they tearfully embraced.

"I busted out crying. I was relieved and shaken," she said. "I am praying for all of the victims." □

Trump blasts GOP spending plan that lacks money for wall

By MATTHEW DALY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Raising the specter of a government shutdown in just 10 days, President Donald Trump complained Thursday that a spending plan pushed by congressional Republicans is "ridiculous" because it does not include funding for a border wall with Mexico.

Trump tweeted that he wants to know "where is the money for Border Security and the WALL in this ridiculous Spending Bill." He added that "REPUBLICANS MUST FINALLY GET TOUGH" against Democrats he said are obstructing law enforcement and border security.

Trump's outburst could complicate efforts by GOP leaders to avert a partial government shutdown at the end of September and put off a potentially messy fight over border funding until after the midterm elections in November.

The Senate on Tuesday approved a bill that funds the military and some civilian agencies for the next year and provides a short-term fix to keep the government open through Dec. 7.

The stopgap bill would not address Trump's long-promised wall along the U.S.-



In this Nov. 15, 2016, photo provided by Kenneth Madsen, stadium lights atop tall poles oversee a pedestrian barrier stretching for miles along a section of the border wall between Douglas, Arizona, and Agua Prieta, in the Mexican state of Sonora.

Associated Press

Mexico border, although separate spending bills being considered in the House and Senate provide funding for the wall. GOP leaders have said they prefer to resolve the issue after the Nov. 6 elections.

Trump cited an opinion column by Sen. David Perdue, R-Ga., blaming Democrats for the failure to fund the wall.

While Congress has made progress on spending bills, GOP leaders decided to roll their unfinished work into a package tied to defense funding and "call it a day until December," Perdue said.

"This a total sleight of hand. It is caving to Senate Democrats who are doing everything they can to derail President Trump's agenda,

including funding for border security and the wall," Perdue wrote in the Washington Examiner.

Perdue was one of seven senators who opposed the stopgap bill approved by the Senate. The House is expected to approve the bill next week, days ahead of a Sept. 30 deadline for a government shutdown.

A Republican congressio-

nal aide, who was not authorized to speak publicly and asked not to be identified, dismissed Trump's tweet as "just saber-rattling" and said it would not derail efforts to avert a government shutdown at the start of the new budget year Oct. 1. "We believe we are still on track with respect to the president signing both appropriations conference reports" that fund a range of agencies and keep the government open through Dec. 7, the aide said.

While Trump vented on Twitter, he privately assured aides Thursday that he would sign the spending bill, said an administration official who was not authorized to speak publicly and sought anonymity.

Indeed, despite Trump's frustration, his tweet hints he will eventually sign the stopgap bill by asking where money for the wall will come from "after the Midterms?"

A bill being considered in the Senate allocates \$1.6 billion for Trump's wall next year, far short of the \$5 billion that Trump is seeking. A bill approved by a House committee includes \$5 billion for physical barriers and associated technology along the U.S. southern border. □

Kavanaugh accuser may testify after all -- under right terms



Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., with Sen. Mazie Hirono, D-Hawaii, left, joined by former students from Holton Arms School, speaks to reporters in support of professor Christine Blasey Ford, who is accusing Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh of a decades-old sexual attack, during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018.

Associated Press

By ALAN FRAM and LISA MASCARO

WASHINGTON (AP) — Christine Blasey Ford may personally testify against Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh after all, her attorney said Thursday, breathing new life into the prospect of a dramatic Senate showdown next week over Ford's accusation that he assaulted her when both were in high school.

Ford will tell her story to the Judiciary Committee, whose senators will vote on Kavanaugh's confirmation — but only if agreement can be reached on "terms that are fair and which ensure her safety," the attorney said.

The positive tone of the lawyer's email revived the possibility that the panel would hold an electrifying campaign-season hearing at which both Ford and President Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee could give their versions of what did or didn't happen at a party in the 1980s. Kavanaugh, now a judge on the powerful District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals, has repeatedly denied her allegation.

The accusation has jarred the 53-year-old conservative jurist's prospects for winning confirmation, which until Ford's emergence last week had seemed all but certain. It has also bloomed into a broader clash over

whether women alleging abuse are taken seriously by men and how both political parties address such claims with the advent of the #MeToo movement — a theme that could echo in this November's elections for control of Congress.

In one obstacle that must be overcome, Katz's email said a hearing Monday is "not possible" and that scheduling it that day "is arbitrary in any event." Judiciary Chairman Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, has scheduled the hearing for that morning, and he and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., have indicated it would be Ford's only chance to make her case. □

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ONLINE****www.GroceriesToGoAruba.com****FBI: Solar observatory closed after child porn case opened**By **RUSSELL CONTRERAS****Associated Press****ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)** —

The mysterious closure of a solar observatory in southern New Mexico earlier this month happened after the FBI started opened a child pornography investigation involving a janitor's computer found at the observatory and agents tracked wireless signals used to access child porn, according to an FBI search warrant affidavit filed in federal court. The mountaintop Sunspot Solar Observatory closed for from Sept. 6 to Sept. 17 but the research association that manages it has said only that an unspecified security issue was the reason for the closure. The facility employs a small group of scientists, researchers and students to capture some of the sharpest images of the sun available in the world.

The search warrant filed last week in federal court the city of Las Cruces said the facility's chief observer, who was not identified, told FBI agents in August he found a laptop computer with child pornography

several months earlier but did not immediately report the discovery to authorities because he was "distracted" by an unspecified urgent issue at the observatory.

The search warrant provided to a judge the justifications of agents so they could search computers, cellphones or tablets owned by the janitor, Joshua Lee Cope, and the house trailer where he lives. An FBI agent seized the laptop at the observatory on August 21, 2018, and took it to the FBI office in Las Cruces, court documents said. FBI spokesman Frank Fisher said Thursday that Cope, 30, has not been charged and the investigation is ongoing.

Cope lives on property owned by his parents in the community of La Luz, New Mexico, the search warrant said. A phone message left for Cope at a telephone number listed for his parents seeking comment was not immediately returned. After Cope could not find his laptop, the court documents said, he began to act frantically and told the

chief observer that there was a "serial killer in the area, and that he was fearful that the killer might enter the facility and execute someone."

The observatory closed, without consulting FBI agents, after Cope's comments about the serial killer and his erratic behavior, the warrant said.

The Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, that group that manages the site under a cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation, declined comment on the details about the observatory in the court documents.

"We cannot comment on an ongoing law enforcement investigation," said association spokeswoman Shari Lifson.

Lifson did not immediately reply to an email asking to Cope was still an employee.

The Sunspot Solar Observatory was established in 1947 atop Sacramento Peak in the Lincoln National Forest and overlooks the Tularosa Basin — an expanse of desert that includes the city of



In this Friday, Sept. 14, 2018, file photo, security guards are stationed at the entrance to the Sunspot Solar Observatory to turn away the visitors curious about the site's sudden closure, in Sunspot, N.M.

Associated Press

Alamogordo, Holloman Air Force Base, White Sands Missile Range, White Sands National Monument and the site of the world's first atomic bomb test.

It was built by the U.S. Air Force. After several years of operation, it was trans-

ferred to the National Solar Observatory, which is part of the National Science Foundation. Data from observations done at Sunspot is sent to New Mexico State University servers and can be used by researchers around the world. □

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Cardinal hires judge to review church sex abuse policies

By KAREN MATTHEWS

NEW YORK (AP) — Hoping to restore the faith of those disillusioned by how the church has handled sexual abuse allegations, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York appointed a former federal judge Thursday to review its procedures and protocols. Cardinal Timothy Dolan announced the appointment of Barbara Jones, saying many Catholics had told him they were feeling let down by the church's hierarchy after a "summer of hell." The string of bad news has included a Pennsylvania grand jury report detailing widespread sexual abuse and systematic cover-up by church officials in that state, and revelations about sexual abuse allegations against a former archbishop, Theodore McCarrick.

The move also comes two weeks after New York's attorney general announced a comprehensive investigation of how the church and its leaders handled abuse allegations across the state. Attorney General



Cardinal Timothy Dolan addresses a news conference at the offices of the New York Archdiocese, in New York, Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018. The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York said Thursday that it has hired former federal judge Barbara Jones, left, to review its procedures and protocols for handling allegations of sexual abuse.

Associated Press

Barbara Underwood issued subpoenas to all eight of the state's Roman Catholic dioceses for documents containing information on abuse allegations and how they were investigated and handled.

Dolan didn't mention the

state investigation during his news conference, instead citing pressure from ordinary Catholics.

"If I lost the trust of my people and this community, I don't have a lot left," he said.

He told Jones, who appeared alongside him at the news conference, that he was praying her "careful review and hard questions will help my good people renew their trust in the church they love and the leaders they want to believe."

The step is the latest the Manhattan-based archdiocese has taken to assure the faithful that it is serious about reform — while simultaneously opposing proposed changes to New York law that would ease certain time limits on civil lawsuits and make it easier for people abused a long time ago to sue the church. Two years ago, the archdiocese announced it was creating an independently administered compensation fund for victims of clergy sex abuse willing to forego lawsuits. It has paid out about \$60 million so far. The system has been copied in other dioceses. Earlier this week, four men reached a \$27.5 million settlement with the neighboring diocese of Brooklyn

over their allegations of being sexually abused as boys by a teacher at a Catholic church.

The New York Archdiocese covers Manhattan, the Bronx and Staten Island in New York City, as well as the state counties of Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester north of the city. It is the nation's second-largest archdiocese after Los Angeles.

Advocates for survivors of abuse said any effort to curb abuse that's commissioned by church authorities is unlikely to produce meaningful results.

Anne Barrett Doyle, co-director of the Massachusetts-based BishopAccountability.org, called the New York archdiocese one of the most secretive in the country when it comes to abuse.

"If there is a chance of making it transparent and accountable, it will be thanks to the efforts of Attorney General Underwood, not an investigator paid by the cardinal," Doyle said. "Although we don't doubt Ms. Jones' sincerity, we've yet to see one of these internal reviews produce significant systemic change or even damaging revelations."

Tim Lennon, president of Survivors Network of those

Abused by Priests, said that "no kind of sham investigation by the archbishop will get us one step closer to helping survivors and protecting children."

Jones, 71, who has repeatedly served in roles calling for an outside independent monitor or arbiter, said she has already begun an initial review of archdiocese efforts going back over 25 years.

"Based upon this review I certainly see a robust infrastructure in place with the archdiocese," she said. "But my job now will be to evaluate the effectiveness of the existing programs and policies in that infrastructure."

Jones said her purview would include policies on workplace harassment and abuse of authority involving adults in addition to the sexual abuse of minors.

Jones, who left the Manhattan federal bench in 2013, finished her work only weeks ago as a court-appointed special master who helped review millions of documents and files seized by the FBI from President Donald Trump's former personal lawyer, Michael Cohen. Her role was to referee disputes over which documents were protected by attorney-client privilege.

Jones was an assistant U.S. attorney in Manhattan and chief assistant to former Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau before she was appointed a judge in 1995 by President Bill Clinton. As a federal prosecutor, she served as chief of the Organized Crime Strike Force Unit.

After leaving the bench, she joined the law firm Bracewell, where she has specialized in white collar defense and internal investigations.

In her role as an arbitrator, she ruled in 2014 that former Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice could play football again after concluding that NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell had made an "abuse of discretion" in suspending Rice indefinitely after video emerged of him beating his wife into unconsciousness in an elevator. □



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California makes people ask for straws, sodas with kid meals

By SOPHIA BOLLAG

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)

— If you want a straw with your drink or a soda with your child's meal at a California restaurant, you'll need to ask for them starting next year.

A law signed Thursday by Gov. Jerry Brown makes California the first state to bar full-service restaurants from automatically giving out single-use plastic straws. Another law he approved requires milk or water to be the default drink sold with kids' meals at fast-food and full-service restaurants.

Neither law is an outright ban on straws or sugary drinks in kids' meals. But some Republicans have called the measures government overreach by the heavily Democratic state. California restaurants that don't comply with the new straw law will get two warnings before being fined up to \$300 per year. It will apply only to full-service restaurants, not fast-food establishments.

Democratic lawmakers who support the policy call it a small step toward reducing ocean pollution.

Brown, who has made environmental issues a signature priority, pointed to the large amount of plastic dumped in oceans every year that can kill whales and fish and contaminate people's food and water supplies.

"Plastic has helped advance innovation in our society, but our infatuation with single-use convenience has led to disastrous consequences," Brown said in a statement. "Plastics, in all forms — straws, bottles, packaging, bags, etc. — are choking the planet." □

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Plight of jailed Catalans strains dialogue with Spain

By RENATA BRITO

ARITZ PARRA

Associated Press

SANT JOAN DE VILATORRADA, Spain (AP) —

A farm tractor with a crane lifts up half a dozen people holding Catalan independence flags in northeast Spain, trying to get high enough so they can peek into a prison courtyard and see their separatist heroes.

The distance makes it hard to recognize the faces of the Catalan activists and politicians jailed in the Lledoners penitentiary while they await trial for their involvement in a banned independence referendum last year in Catalonia. But inmates and supporters make a quick connection. Shouts of "Freedom!" and "We want you home!" from outside are met with "We want to be out!" coming from the prison. And joy erupts when the unofficial Catalan flag embraced by secessionists, the "estelada," appears through the bars of a cell window.

"I'm convinced that the energy we send them from here helps them," said Qui-



In this Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018 photo, pro independence supporters set their chairs and tables to make a picnic on a field overlooking the Lledoners prison in Sant Joan de Vilatorrada, about 50 kilometres away from Barcelona, Spain.

ma Albalade a 58-year-old nurse who joins her son for twice-a-week picnics of solidarity in these quiet hills of rural Catalonia.

Jailed Catalan separatists, together with those who fled abroad to avoid prosecution by Spain, have become an emotional symbol

of what many perceive as Spain's heavy-handed attempt to crush the independence movement in Catalonia. They are also a key stumbling block in negotiations trying to find a way out of the political deadlock, Spain's worst constitutional crisis in decades.

Their absence casts a shadow over Thursday's commemorations of the year since Spanish police began searching government buildings in Barcelona and arresting Catalan officials. Several thousand people, including Catalan regional president Quim Torra, turned out for a protest Thursday night in Barcelona to mark those events, which helped to fire up the latest secessionist push in a region where many have long sought to break away from Spain. Protesters shouted for the jailed activists to be released from prison.

Nine of the separatists remain in preventive jail on preliminary charges of rebellion and abuse of power. Seven are in Lledoners, including prominent activists Jordi Sanchez and Jordi Cuixart, who drew tens of thousands to the streets one year ago to protest police searches ahead of Catalonia's banned Oct.

1, 2017 referendum on independence. Former regional ministers Oriol Junqueras and Jordi Turull are also here.

The latter's wife, Blanca Bragulat, stood this week outside the prison's walled perimeter and put her husband on speakerphone for supporters.

"We're OK, we are strong," Turull said, replying to questions by friends and relatives who applauded when they heard his voice.

Holding Catalan independence flags and wearing yellow t-shirts and ribbons — ubiquitous symbols of support for those they consider to be political prisoners — these families have been setting up the picnic tables twice a week ever since the inmates were transferred from prisons near Madrid to this facility 70 kilometers (43 miles) north of Barcelona.

The transfers were ordered by Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez soon after he came to power in June to ease the political conflict. But regional separatist authorities in Catalonia want more and are urging state prosecutors to change their position and allow the release of the prisoners.

The central government, which appoints the top

prosecutor, is sticking to the line that the separatists are receiving due process according to Spanish law. But some officials have acknowledged that dialogue would be easier with the Catalans out of jail.

Foreign Minister Josep Borrell, a politician from Catalonia who presided over the European Parliament, recently said "at a personal level" he would have preferred for the separatists to be free while awaiting trial. That comment was mirrored by Territorial Affairs Minister Meritxell Batet, another Catalan in Sanchez's cabinet, who said "it would be better and much easier for the dialogue" if the Catalans were free.

For separatist parties in the prosperous region, however, the prisoners keep pro-independence supporters united, says political analyst Pablo Simon.

"For a highly fragmented Catalan movement that scrambles to find the next step in the fight for independence, the prisoners' plight is their only source of cohesion currently. But the politicians are in the hands of activists who think that with jailed separatists there can't be any compromise with central authorities," said the Carlos III University professor. "There's very little room to maneuver."

Meanwhile, divisions over the issue of independence are still running high in the streets of Catalonia. Some people have objected to using public spaces to hang symbols in support of the prisoners.

For separatists — but also for some of those who don't support a separate Catalonia — the jailing of the officials without even setting a date for a trial feels like a deep injustice.

"We need the higher courts to look at us here and see that these people defended political ideas," said Albalade, the nurse. "But that's not a reason for them to be in jail."

Bragulat said she hoped "the European Community at some point will say something." □

Associated Press

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Egypt court orders release of former president's sons

By HAMZA HENDAWI

CAIRO (AP) — An Egyptian court on Thursday ordered the release from detention of former president Hosni Mubarak's two sons, overturning a ruling by another court whose judge surprisingly told police to arrest them and send them to prison.

The judge in the Sept. 15 hearing ordered the detention of wealthy businessman Alaa and one-time heir-apparent Gamal before adjourning the hearings until Oct. 20. The surprise decision by Judge Ahmed Aboul-Fetouh followed his rejection of a technical report that apparently cleared the pair of any wrongdoing.

Thursday's ruling to release the Mubarak sons on a bail of 100,000 pounds (\$5,600) each came just hours after an appeals court accepted a motion moved by their defense lawyers to remove the judge who ordered their detention.

In their motion, the lawyers argued that the ruling was "unreasonable" given that they regularly attended hearings and their place of residence was known to authorities.

The ongoing insider trading trial centers on the purchase by the two brothers and their alleged accomplices of a large number of shares in a local Egyptian bank that they allegedly knew was to become the target of a takeover by Arab Gulf investors, a move that was virtually certain to dramatically drive up share prices.

The brothers along with their father were first detained two months after a popular uprising forced the senior Mubarak to step down in February 2011 after 29 years in power. The



This combination of Jan. 6, 2011 file images shows Gamal Mubarak, left, and Alaa Mubarak, right, attending a Christmas Eve Mass at the Coptic cathedral in Cairo, Egypt.

Associated Press

trio was later sentenced to three years each for embezzling funds meant for maintenance of presidential palaces.

The sons were released in 2015 for time served, while their father was freed last year. Separately, Mubarak was acquitted after a long trial of killing protesters during the 18-day uprising against his autocratic rule. The Mubarak brothers have since their release frequently appeared in public, receiving a relatively warm welcome. Those appearances, however, have drawn the ire of powerful supporters of general-turned-president Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi. One of them is Yasser Rizq, the editor of a state newspaper who is known to be close to el-Sissi.

Preventing Gamal from succeeding his father was among the chief motives for the 2011 uprising and the military's subsequent support for the revolt. The

years that followed saw stalwarts of Mubarak's regime put on trial on corruption or abuse of power charges, but most have subsequently been acquitted or walked free after repaying part or all the funds they had illegally amassed. Second-string Mubarak loyalists have meanwhile found their way back to public life under el-Sissi, particularly in parliament and the media.

Rizq, the newspaper editor, sternly warned Gamal Mubarak in a May article against harboring political ambitions and suggested he might be willing to forge an alliance with the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood to run for president when el-Sissi's current term ends in 2022. □

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ARUBA WINE & DINE

Israeli delegation in Moscow to share data on plane downing

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
MOSCOW (AP) — A high-level Israeli military delegation visited Moscow on Thursday to present detailed information related to the downing of a Russian warplane by Syrian forces that responded to an Israeli air raid.

All 15 crew members on board the Russian Il-20 reconnaissance plane were killed when it was downed Monday by Syrian air defense forces that mistook it for Israeli jets. The incident threatened to derail the close security ties between Russia and Israel.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu quickly called Russian President Vladimir to express sorrow over the death of the plane's crew, blamed Syria and offered to share detailed data.



In this file photo, The Russian Il-20 electronic intelligence plane RF 93610, which was accidentally downed by Syrian forces responding to an Israeli air strike flays near Kubinka airport, outside Moscow, Russia.

Associated Press

Netanyahu said Thursday that while voicing regret over the deaths, he told Putin that "the root of the problem is Iran's attempt

to use Syrian territory for attacks against Israel and to arm our enemies, such as Hezbollah." "I told him that we have the right of self

defense," Netanyahu said, adding that "there is also very great importance to maintaining the security coordination between Is-

rael and Russia." He said he dispatched the Israeli air force chief, Maj. Gen. Amikam Norkin, to Moscow with a double objective: "One, to continue defending our citizens, and two, to preserve the cooperation between our two countries." On Thursday, a delegation of Israeli military officers led by Norkin, held several meetings in Moscow with their Russian counterparts. The Israeli military said in a statement that they presented the situation report regarding the plane's downing, as well as the pre-mission information and the findings of an Israeli military inquiry. "The meetings were held in good spirits and the representatives shared a professional, open and transparent discussion on various issues," the Israeli military said. □

Doctor gets life term in Hong Kong over yoga ball killings



In this Sept. 19, 2018 photo, Malaysian citizen Khaw Kim Sun, 53, center, covered face, is escorted in a prison bus leaving the court after sentenced to life in prison in Hong Kong.

Associated Press

Associated Press
HONG KONG (AP) — An anesthesiologist convicted of killing his wife and daughter by placing a yoga ball that leaked carbon monoxide in their car has been sentenced to life in prison in Hong Kong.

Malaysian citizen Khaw Kim Sun, 53, had become estranged from his wife, Wong Siew Fing, 47, and their four children, although they continued to live together while he had an affair with a student.

A jury of five men and four women found him guilty at Hong Kong's High Court after seven hours of delibera-

tion Wednesday. "It is shocking that a highly educated and successful man would conjure up such a calculated method to get rid of his wife," judge Judianna Barnes Wai-ling was quoted in media as telling Khaw.

Khaw was accused of putting the gas-filled yoga ball in the trunk of a Mini Cooper driven by his wife, Wong Siew-fung, on May 22, 2015.

Wong and their 16-year-old daughter were found unconscious in the car parked at a bus stop about an hour after leaving home. They were later declared dead

from severe carbon monoxide poisoning, although the vehicle showed no defects such as a leaky emissions system.

The case initially flummoxed Hong Kong police until the presence of the deflated yoga ball drew suspicion. Khaw was arrested in September after colleagues from the teaching hospital where he worked spoke with police.

Khaw reportedly obtained the carbon monoxide from the hospital. He told colleagues he wanted to "test its purity" and its effects on rabbits, according to accounts. □



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New landslide kills 21, buries houses in Philippines

By BULLIT MARQUEZ
JOEAL CALUPITAN

Associated Press

NAGA, Philippines (AP) —

A massive landslide buried dozens of homes near a central Philippine mountain Thursday, killing at least 21 people and sending rescuers scrambling to find survivors after some sent text messages pleading for help.

The slide surged down on about 30 houses in two rural villages after daybreak in Naga city in Cebu province, city police chief Roderick Gonzales said by telephone as he helped supervise the search and rescue. Seven injured villagers were rescued from the huge mound of earth and debris. Some victims managed to send messages after the landslide hit, Gonzales said, adding that elderly women and a child were among the dead.

Nimrod Parba, a 26-year-old resident, said a relative trapped in a house beneath the rubble managed to call Thursday morning and begged to be rescued. The calls stopped, however, and the relative could not be reached hours later, Parba said.

Naga city Mayor Kristine Vanessa Chiong said at least 64 people remained missing.

"We're really hoping we can still recover them alive," she said.

The landslide hit while several northern Philippine provinces are still dealing with deaths and widespread damage wrought by Typhoon Mangkhut, which pummeled the agricultural region Saturday and left at least 88 people dead and more than 60 missing. A massive search is still underway for dozens of people feared dead after

landslides in the gold-mining town of Itogon in the north.

Cebu province was not directly hit by Mangkhut but the massive typhoon intensified monsoon rains across a large part of the archipelago, including the central region where Naga city lies about 570 kilometers (355 miles) southeast of Manila. Rescuers were treading carefully in small groups on the unstable ground to avoid further casualties.

"We're running out of time. The ground in the area is still vibrating. We're striking a balance between intensifying our rescue efforts and ensuring the safety of our rescuers," Naga city Councilor Carmelino Cruz said by phone.

Cristita Villarba, a 53-year-old resident, said her husband and son were preparing to leave for work when the ground shook and they were overwhelmed by a roar.

"It was like an earthquake and there was this thundering, loud banging sound. All of us ran out," Villarba said, adding that she, her husband and three children were shocked but unhurt.

Outside, she saw the house of her older brother, Lauro, and his family buried in the landslide.

"Many of our neighbors were crying and screaming for help. Some wanted to help those who got hit but there was too much earth covering the houses, including my brother's," she said.

Nearly 20 people lived in her brother's home, mostly his family and grandchildren, she said.

Villarba said she had felt sorry a few days earlier for the landslide victims in the country's north.

"I had no idea we would be the next," she said.

Elsewhere in the landslide-hit community, a father and his young daughter were found dead in each other's embrace in a house, volunteer rescuer Vic Santillan said. It's not clear what set off the landslide, but some residents blamed limestone quarries, which they suspect may have caused cracks in the mountainside facing their villages. □



Rescuers dig through the rubble to search for possible survivors following a landslide that buried dozens of homes in Naga city, Cebu province central Philippines on Thursday Sept. 20, 2018.

Associated Press



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Mexico commemorates victims of deadly quakes

By **PETER ORSI**
MARK STEVENSON

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's wounds remained open Wednesday as victims, relatives and rescuers marked the Sept. 19 anniversaries of last year's earthquake that killed more than 360 people and the devastating 1985 temblor that left at least 9,500 dead.

With reconstruction slow from the 2017 quake, relatives of the dead and quake victims gathered at vacant lots where buildings once stood. A year later, their search for justice has been fruitless, with none of the owners or builders of collapsed structures having been convicted.

Fernando Sanchez Lira stood on the lot where both his mother and sister died when a five-story downtown office building collapsed in last year's magnitude 7.1 quake killing at least 15 people. Overall, the temblor killed 228 people in the capital and 141 more in nearby states.

Sanchez Lira said the building had been unsafe since another tremor 12 days earlier. He said authorities allowed a heavy cellphone tower to be built on the



Rescue workers stand with with raised fists and in silence, in front of a 1985 earthquake memorial during a ceremony marking that quake's 33rd anniversary and last year's 7.1 magnitude earthquake, in Mexico City, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018.

Associated Press

roof years ago that may have contributed to the collapse.

"The building was really bad. The owner knew it," said Sanchez Lira, who quit his job to pursue legal action against the owners. "It continued operating because of corruption, and there are a lot of buildings in that situation, that keep operating with bribes."

"This continues. We have learned nothing," he added. The legal case has made little progress, he said, noting that "the owners are powerful people. They could buy the legal system."

Moments later, the quake alarm siren sounded mournfully during an anniversary drill. Mourners held their arms aloft in a signal

that was used by rescuers after the quake to call for silence and has since become a symbol of remembrance and solidarity.

A weeping Arturo Gomez, his arm aloft, shouted, "We miss you a lot!" He referred to Maria Elena Sanchez Lira, his wife of 39 years and the sister of Fernando Sanchez Lira who died in the quake.

Elsewhere, victims' relatives gathered at the site of a seven-story office building in Mexico City's Condesa district that collapsed last Sept. 19, killing 49 people. The rubble was long ago cleared, but the site remains blocked off with plywood. Friends and family of victims have posted signs with messages of love on the fencing.

"It's difficult. All the memories come flooding back of everything. I can't find words," said Consuelo de Luna, whose son died in the collapse.

"It may be a year, but its feels to me like it was yesterday," de Luna said. "It is so hard."

Claudia Acosta Luna, a lawyer whose cousin Karina Gabriela died in the collapse, was one of several relatives wearing black T-shirts emblazoned: "It is my hope to see you again, I continue to await that fate."

Acosta recalled her cousin as a lover of concerts who took care of her. "It's even sadder to know that it was not only the earthquake but also the inadequate construction of the building," Acosta said. □

Guatemalan protesters demand Morales reverse on graft body



Demonstrators gather at Constitution Square to protest Guatemalan President Jimmy Morales and rally in support of the fight against corruption in Guatemala City, Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018.

Associated Press

By **SONIA PEREZ D**
Associated Press

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) — Thousands marched Thursday to protest President Jimmy Morales' decision to end the work of a U.N. anti-corruption commission that has helped lead high-pro-

file graft probes targeting dozens of powerful Guatemalans, including one involving Morales.

Students, farmers, clerics, academics and others turned out in the streets of Guatemala City as well as plazas and highways out-

side the capital to demand Morales allow the commission, known as CICIG for its initials in Spanish, to stay.

"Jimmy and Sandra resign, because you are part of the mafia," read some banners, referring to the president and his foreign minister, Sandra Jovel.

"It is a general feeling of rejection of a government that has not been able to run things well," said opposition lawmaker Paul Briere, who took part in the march. Morales announced at the end of August that he would not renew the mandate of the commission for another two-year term, giving it until the end of its current mandate next September to wind down its activities and transfer them to Guatemalan institutions. He then barred CICIG chief

Ivan Velasquez, a Colombian national, from returning to Guatemala from a work trip to the United States, calling him "a person who attacks order and public security in the country."

The Constitutional Court overruled that decision, but it was not immediately clear whether Velasquez would be able to return. Also Thursday, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres reiterated during a news conference that Velasquez enjoys his full confidence and he sees no reason for that to change. Guterres added that the United Nations consulted with Morales' government about appointing a deputy to Velasquez responsible for "coordinating CICIG's actions" in the country. Friction between Morales

and the commission began in January 2017, when CICIG and Guatemalan prosecutors sought arrest warrants for the president's brother and son on graft charges. Both are currently being prosecuted.

In a subsequent case, Morales is suspected of having received more than \$1 million in undeclared campaign financing. He denies any wrongdoing and is immune from prosecution as a sitting president. A request to lift that protection is before lawmakers for a decision. Previous corruption investigations brought by CICIG and prosecutors have ensnared politicians, public officials and businesspeople and led to the resignation and imprisonment of former President Otto Perez Molina. □

LOCAL



Social entrepreneur James Ocalia in cooperation with HopeAruba Movement



Somewhere uphill in Alto Vista you will find a beautiful piece of land with an old, white, traditional cunucu house on it, dating from 1923. Nothing remarkable about that, you might think, as there are many of these old aunties scattered around the island. But this one has an amazing background story. Aruba Today visited the place on a warm, sticky afternoon where James Ocalia was working on the land with a handful other men.

'Cas Speransa Nobo' says the name sign on the cunucu house, it refers to the new hope that is there for the students of the rehabilitation program that is run here. "We call them students rather than drug addicts or clients because they have chosen to learn another life. Their addict life is their past, the goal is to learn and graduate in a new life." The Aruban James explains that he runs his company -Goshen, which means 'inundated land' - with the help of the men that are part of the rehabilitation program. "They learn to cultivate local crops and it works in two ways. For them it is a subject they learn and a daily goal in life, for me it is exercising my job and doing something good for my

island at the same time."

Fair harvest

While we are walking on the land the students are enthusiastically showing their plants, inviting Aruba Today's journalist to taste a comcomber chiquito. The proud in their smiling faces is moving and there is definitely something magic in the air. Maybe it is best described as pure: the land, the taste of the veggie, the drive of the students and the sincerity of James, all together it is 'Hope' indeed. On the 7.000 m2 land only local crops are grown: comcomber chiquito (cucumber), jambo (okra), boonchi (beans), pika (hot peppers) form the main production. But one can also find patia (watermelon) and dragon fruit as well as moringa. "But these are not for commercial use yet." The plants are seeded and grown in the nursery, built by the students, and when strong enough are being transferred to the land. "So far we sell only to individuals that come to the house. That goes amazingly well. In the future we would like to sell to supermarkets and hotels." James works every day on the land with his men, from 1 to 5 pm. "Two of them are above 50 years old. It is intensive as for me it is the

first time I work with addicts. I started with this crew two weeks ago and already learned that I need to be strict and clear. They are different in their approach of life, this is like teaching life again as you do the same to children."

Cultural dishes

HopeAruba is a national platform for Civic Synergy that began this project two months ago. The professional caregivers, the couple Shannon and Shawn Blankenship from the United States, live on the premises with their children and work according to the program Teen Challenge. James: "They are here to set up the program for a year and also screen the participants. Hope is a movement, a collaboration of foundations, companies and volunteers that sets up social projects where there is need in so-

ciety. People here tend to signal social problems and point towards the government, but Hope wants to act upon themselves and make a difference."

Make a difference

To make a difference is where both connect. "I myself want to make a difference for my island from my passion: sustainable agriculture. My goal is to have locals eaten the typical Aruban veggies and be healthier." He has a thing for Aruba's traditional veggies and fruits, since he was a kid. "I wrote a book, 'My favorite Curacao and Aruban Dishes', and found myself asking my granny how to prepare traditional dishes with local veggies. That is not right, we need to implement them into modern cooking to preserve this diamond of culture. Italians may have their zucchini

and tomatoes, Aruba has her comcomber chiquito and jambo." Our generation does not know how to cook with our own veggies, we often are kings in preparing meals coming from the Italian or other foreign gastronomy, but what about our own culture?" His drive is contagious and creates a curiosity towards the real taste of local gastronomy. "In my opinion three ingredients are necessary to develop social enterprise: the social aspect, the environmental aspect and support of economic pillars, in Aruba's case tourism."

If you wish to see Cas Speransa Nobo for yourself and buy some real local crops, you are welcome at Alto Vista 52 between 1 and 4 pm daily, except for the weekends. Facebook: Goshen Sustainable Development Corporation VBA. □



Peace Walk 2018 by JCI YALA and UNESCO

Oranjestad — September 21st is world Peace day, JCI Young Active Leaders of Aruba, in partnership with UNESCO Aruba will be organizing a Peace walk to spread awareness on the importance of Peace. This day is extremely important to focus not only on world peace but also peace at home, work and mental peace.

JCI Young Active Lead-

ers of Aruba (JCI YALA) is part of Junior Chamber International (JCI), a worldwide community of young active citizens ages 18-40 who share the belief that in order to create positive change, we must take collective action to improve ourselves and the world around us.

Engaging in activities ranging from community development to international

projects, members demonstrate their social responsibility and improve themselves through participation, leadership and action.

JCI YALA and UNESCO Aruba are very active. They have been doing projects aligned with Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. The Peace walk is one of the project that belongs to Sustainable Development Goals. The

goal here is to make people aware how important peace is in our lives.

The peace walk will take place on Friday September 21st 2018 at 5 PM and will start by the fire station close to the airport on the route of the Linear Park. It's a 3km fun walk for the entire family. At the side of the route you will see all the goals they are working on regarding the sustainable de-

velopment goals. Everyone should wear white clothing, which refers to Peace. At the end of the Peace walk there everyone will head to the plaza Betico Croes where they will form a human peace sign. For more information on activities and projects check their facebook page JCI Young Active Leaders of Aruba. □



Happy Birthday Shirley!!

ORANJESTAD — Shirley and Keith Susany of Pittsburgh are true loyal friends of Aruba and they are currently vacationing on the island. They started visiting the island in 2005 and this is their 24th vacation to what they call their favorite island paradise.

They have been staying at the Hilton since day one. They love it there specially for the quick trips they can take to the Bugaloe Beach Bar where they enjoy great food and music. What makes this trip very special is that it's Shirley's 61st birthday. This lovely couple surely knows how to have fun and that wouldn't be an exception while celebrating Shirley's big day. They love trying new places and what they love about Aruba is the variety of places to go. Each one of them is a joyful experience. Barney's, Daniels, and sailing on the Palm Pleasure are always on their list of things to do. Aruba Today wants to wish Shirley a Happy Birthday and many more years to come. □



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Honoring the Skorupski's

ORANJESTAD — Recently, Emely Ridderstaat of Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Loyal and Friendly visitors of Aruba as Goodwill Ambassadors. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, Transportation, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20 and more consecutive years.

The Honorees are Mr. Joseph & Mrs. Diane Skorupski together with their daughter Mrs. Rachel Meek, who have been coming to Aruba for more than 10 consecutive years and are staying at the Marriott Surf Club. The honorees love the island very much, the sunset, the weather and specially the people of Aruba.

Emely together with Jenny Boekhoudt of the Marriott Surf Club presented the certificate to the honorees and handed over some presents to them and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □



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ARUBA — The United Nations' (UN) International Day of Peace is celebrated on September 21 each year to recognize the efforts of those who have worked hard to end conflict and promote peace. The International Day of Peace is also a day of ceasefire – personal or political.

On the International Day of Peace, also known as Peace Day, people around the world take part in various activities and organize events centered on the theme "peace". Events vary from private gatherings to public concerts and forums involving large audiences. The UN's International Day of Peace is a global observance and not a public holiday. It is a day when nations around the world are invited to honor a cessation of hostilities during the day.

A UN resolution established the International Day of Peace in 1981 to coincide with the opening of the UN General Assembly. The first Peace Day was celebrated in 1982 and was held on the third Tuesday of September each year until 2002, when September 21 became the permanent date for the International Day of Peace. The assembly decided in 2001 that the International Day of Peace should be annually observed on September 21 starting from 2002. By setting a fixed date for the International Day of Peace, the assembly declared that the day should be observed as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence.

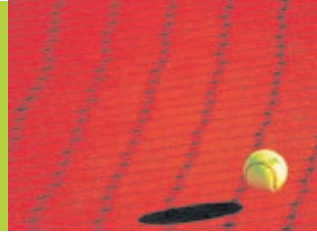
The peace dove flying with an olive branch in its beak is one of the most commonly featured symbols for the day. In Judaism, Christianity, and Islam a white dove is generally a sign for peace. The dove can also represent "hope for peace" or a peace offering from one person to another, hence the phrase "to extend an olive branch". Often, the dove is represented as still in flight to remind people of its role as messenger. □

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SPORTS



Sam Reinhart eagerly rejoins Sabres with new contract signed

By **JOHN WAWROW**
AP Hockey Writer

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — If Sam Reinhart's objective was to carry over his point-a-game pace from the second half of last season, the Buffalo Sabres forward understood that it wasn't doing him much good sitting at home waiting for contract talks to be resolved.

"I don't know if worried's the right word," he said after practicing for the first time Thursday, a day after flying in from Vancouver, British Columbia, and signing a two-year, \$7.3 million contract. "I think the best thing for the team and myself was to be here as soon as possible."

Reinhart missed five days of training camp and two preseason games.

With two weeks to catch up before the Sabres open the regular season by hosting Boston, the No. 2 player selected in the 2014 draft is focused on proving he can consistently produce over the course of an entire season.

That was the knock on Reinhart last year, when he had just seven goals and 13 points in his first 44 games. He then went on a tear, scoring 18 goals and 37 points his final 38 games, and finished with a career-best 25 goals and 50 points. The down-then-up season was one of the reasons the Sabres balked at offering the restricted free agent a longer-term deal.

"Whether it was a one-year or an eight-year, it's not changing my mentality," Reinhart said. "I know the player I can be."

Continued on Page 22

LION'S SHARE



Tiger tied for lead at Tour Championship

Tiger Woods and the gallery react as he sinks his birdie putt on the 18th green during the first round of the Tour Championship golf tournament Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018, in Atlanta.

Roger Federer to play doubles with Djokovic at Laver Cup

By JAY COHEN

AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic have played against each other 46 times. From Monaco to Shanghai and everywhere in between. Regular, run-of-the-mill tournaments and major finals.

On Friday night, they play on the same side of the net for the first time.

Federer and Djokovic will close out the first day of the second edition of the Laver Cup when they take on Jack Sock and Kevin Anderson in doubles at the United Center. Federer and Djokovic are playing for Team Europe, while Sock and Anderson are competing for Team World in the Ryder Cup-style event.

"We have had so many great battles in all the singles courts, and to finally team up together I think is going to be very special for both of us," Federer said Thursday. "I think we still have to talk over it a little

bit exactly maybe either who's going to take the lead or, you know, how do we play exactly."

The pairing of Federer and Djokovic adds a little spice to an event long on star power and light on any real stakes. While world No. 1 Rafael Nadal and No. 4 Juan Martin del Potro are out with injuries, the Laver Cup has seven of the top 11 players in the ranking and 10 of the top 20.

But it arrives at the home of the NBA's Bulls and NHL's Blackhawks just a couple weeks after Djokovic beat del Potro in the US Open final for his 14th Grand Slam title.

There are no majors left this year and the next big tournament isn't until next month in Shanghai.

While the event looks and feels like a glorified exhibition — check out the unusual black court and the celebrations for the youthful Team World whenever it wins a big point — John



In this Jan. 28, 2016, file photo, Roger Federer, left, of Switzerland and Novak Djokovic, right, of Serbia, pose for a photo ahead of their semifinal match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia.

Associated Press

Isner brusquely swatted away a question about the level of competition.

"Honestly, that question really annoys me," the 6-foot-10 American said. "One-hundred percent serious. This is not an exhibition at all. At all."

Federer and his management team played a key role in the creation of the event, and the Swiss star helped lead Team Europe

to the victory last year in Prague. The inaugural edition also was marked by a splashy doubles pairing involving Federer, who teamed with Nadal for the first time for a 6-4, 1-6, 10-5 victory over Sock and fellow American Sam Querrey.

Asked about the matchup with Federer and Djokovic, Sock cracked: "Who's that?"

"Yeah, obviously going to be a legendary team," he continued "We got a little bit of it last year."

Djokovic and Federer last played against each other in the Cincinnati final on Aug. 19, when Djokovic won 6-4, 6-4 to become the player to claim all nine ATP Masters 1000 events since the series started in 1990. Djokovic leads the all-time series with 24 victories. □

FIFA to upgrade flights, raise prize money for Women's Wcup

By GRAHAM DUNBAR, AP Sports Writer

LAUSANNE, Switzerland

(AP) — In a concession to women's soccer, FIFA will start funding business-class flights for some of the Women's World Cup teams traveling to France for next year's tournament.

Total prize money will also "significantly increase" from the \$15 million shared among 24 teams at the 2015 tournament, FIFA official Emily Shaw said Thursday at the Women In Sports Law conference.

The total sum will be confirmed by the FIFA Council, which meets Oct. 25-26 in Rwanda, she said.

FIFA has been urged to close the gap between women's and men's World Cups in a new four-year cycle of tournaments and commercial deals that begins next year. In the



In this, July 5, 2015 file photo, the United States Women's National Team celebrates with the trophy after they beat Japan 5-2 in the FIFA Women's World Cup soccer final in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Associated Press

current cycle, World Cup champion France earned \$38 million from FIFA, while the United States got \$2 million for winning the 2015 Women's World Cup.

FIFA has pledged to share \$440 million in prize money

among the 32 men's teams playing at the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

At the 2018 World Cup, FIFA offered "business-class return flights for 50 people" to all men's team delegations going to Russia. The

new FIFA pledge to women does not cover all teams going to France.

Flight upgrades to business class will be paid except for team flights under four hours, said Shaw, FIFA's head of women's football governance. Teams already qualified to play in France include Australia, Brazil, Chile, Japan, South Korea and Thailand.

"It is definitely progress and, for those teams that travel enormous distances, it is going to come as a huge relief," former FIFA Council member Moya Dodd told The Associated Press at the conference.

FIFA should increase the women's prize fund by at least the same \$40 million raise in men's total prize money from 2018 to 2022, she said.

"Leaders in sport should not be content to sit back and

let the gender pay gap get wider in absolute terms on their watch," said Dodd, a former Australia national team player.

FIFA will also raise standards for the 2019 Women's World Cup by ensuring opposing teams do not have to stay at the same hotel. Hotel sharing is prohibited in men's World Cup rules.

Shaw announced that change Thursday, and said FIFA also wanted to pay preparation costs for Women's World Cup teams. Teams at the 2018 World Cup got \$1.5 million from FIFA in addition to prize money of at least \$8 million each. FIFA also wants to compensate women's clubs for releasing players to national team duty for the World Cup. FIFA shared \$209 million among men's clubs whose players took part in World Cup games. □

Tiger Woods returns to Tour Championship with share of lead

By DOUG FERGUSON

ATLANTA (AP) — The crowd at East Lake was larger and louder than it has been in five years, which was the last time Tiger Woods was at the Tour Championship. It was no coincidence. Woods played one of his best rounds of the year in his return to the FedEx Cup finale and caused the biggest cheer of a sun-baked Thursday afternoon by making an eagle putt from just over 25 feet on the par-5 18th for a 5-under 65 and a share of the lead with Rickie Fowler.

It was the second time in as many FedEx Cup play-off events that Woods was tied for the 18-hole lead. He shot a 62 at Aronimink in the opening round of the BMW Championship two weeks ago on a rain-soaked course that allowed just about everyone to go low.

This felt even better on a dry, tougher East Lake course. "This was by far better than the 62 at Aronimink," Woods said. "Conditions were soft there. This, it's hard to get the ball closer. If you drive the ball in the rough, you know you can't get the ball close. You just can't control it."

Fowler, who missed two playoff events recovering from an injury to his right oblique, putted for birdie on all but two holes for his 65 as he tries to avoid ending the season without winning.

Justin Rose, in his debut as the No. 1 player in the world, got up-and-down from the bunker for birdie on the 18th for a 66 and was tied with Gary Woodland. Rory McIlroy, Justin Thomas and Rory McIlroy, all of whom will be in France next week for the Ryder Cup, were another shot behind.

Woods already considers this a successful year just by making into the 30-man field at East Lake for the FedEx Cup finale, where everyone has a mathematical shot at capturing the \$10 million bonus. He started the season in January after a fourth back surgery that limited him to only 16

PGA Tour events in the previous four seasons.

"To be able to play golf again and to earn my way back to this level is something that I was hoping I would do at the beginning of the year, but I didn't know," Woods said. "And I've done it?"

What would winning mean in this comeback?

"It would enhance the year," he said.

Woods still has 54 holes remaining. Two weeks ago, he went from a share of the first-round lead to five shots behind on a course where attacking flags on soft greens was the only option for low scoring.

This was more about precision, and Woods felt in total control. He opened with a three-putt bogey from 25 feet, and he twice ran birdie attempts farther beyond the hole than he would have liked. But after making birdie putts from 25 feet on No. 5 and from 15 feet on No. 6, he figured out the speed of the greens and was on his way.

"I hit so many quality shots all day, whether it was tee-to-green or it was putts," Woods said. "I didn't really mishit a single shot today. The only shot I can honestly say that I necked pretty bad was the tee shot at 17. Hit a 3-wood there, and with an iron, I probably would have shanked it. But ended up in the fairway and made par."

Woods will play in the final group Friday with Fowler, who has seen plenty of him at home in Florida in the months before Woods returned to golf. He had finished his round and was doing interviews when he heard the head-turning roar of Woods making eagle. They will be teammates next week at the Ryder Cup. Fowler has other objectives at East Lake.

"The biggest win for him is just staying healthy and being out here all year consistently," Fowler said. "Definitely happy for him. It's obviously great for our sport. It's great to have him as part of the team next week. We hope he continues to play well. I just want



Rickie Fowler reacts to missing his birdie putt on the first hole during the first round of the Tour Championship golf tournament at East Lake Golf Club, in Atlanta, Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018.

Associated Press

to play a little bit better and beat him."

Sixteen players in the 30-man field broke par on a hot afternoon with only a

light breeze, and Thursday was all about staying in the game, especially as it relates to the chase for the FedEx Cup.

Bryson DeChambeau, the No. 1 seed after the points were reset, had to birdie two of the last three holes for a 71. For someone like Woods or Fowler to win the FedEx Cup, they would need the top five seeds to falter.

Rose and Thomas didn't go along with that with strong opening rounds. Finau overcame a pair of early bogeys for his 67.

The key for Woods could be Friday. Only once this year, at the Valspar Championship at Innisbrook, has he stayed consistently in the thick of it all tournament. He figures to have plenty of support. Houses along the side streets outside East Lake, and even one funeral home, offered parking and their yards were packed. It hasn't been like that in several years.

"I hadn't played this tournament in five years, and some of the people said they haven't been out here in five years," Woods said. "That's kind of nice that they're coming out and supporting this event and supporting me, as well." □

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Puig's pinch-hit homer helps Dodgers sweep Rockies, 5-2

By The Associated Press
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Pinch-hitter Yasiel Puig slugged a tiebreaking, three-run homer in the seventh inning that sent Los Angeles past Colorado to increase its NL West lead to 2½ games. Walker Buehler struck out a career-high 12 and the Dodgers completed a three-game sweep of the second-place Rockies, giving the defending NL champions their largest division lead this season. They outscored Colorado 16-6 in the series.

After falling into a 2-0 hole in a 36-pitch first inning, Buehler settled down. The rookie allowed three hits and one walk over six innings, and neither run he gave up was earned.

Puig's second career pinch-hit homer came off Scott Oberg (7-1) and ignited the crowd and his teammates. On a recent tear at the plate, the excitable Puig raised both arms as he circled the bases. Caleb Ferguson (7-2) got two outs and Kenley Jansen earned his 36th save. Matt Kemp also went deep for the Dodgers, giving them seven players with 20 or more homers in a season for the first time. Brian Dozier's RBI double tied it 2-all in



Los Angeles Dodgers' Yasiel Puig flips his bat while watching his three-run home run during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Colorado Rockies, Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

the fifth.

PHILLIES 4, METS 0
PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Rhys Hoskins became the seventh-fastest player to hit 50 career home runs and Philadelphia beat New York to keep pace in the NL East race.

Zach Eflin and five relievers combined on a six-hitter and Odubel Herrera added two-run homer for the Phillies. They won consecutive series for the first time

since July 25 and stayed 5 1/2 games behind division-leading Atlanta.

Seven of Philadelphia's final 11 games are against the Braves, including a four-game series beginning Thursday night in Atlanta. Hoskins' opposite-field solo shot against Noah Syndergaard (12-4) in the first inning was his 32nd homer of the season and 50th in 192 career games. Only Rudy York (153), Mark Mc-

Gwire (161), Gary Sanchez (161), Ryan Braun (171), Aaron Judge (174) and former Phillies slugger Ryan Howard (182) reached 50 quicker, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. The 25-year-old Hoskins later added his 35th double, and Jose Bautista had a pinch-hit RBI double in the fifth off Jerry Blevins. Eflin (11-7) struck out nine and allowed three hits in five innings. Luis Avilan, Victor

Arano and Adam Morgan each went one inning.

BRAVES 7, CARDINALS 3
ATLANTA (AP) — Freddie Freeman hit a two-run homer and drove in three runs, Touki Toussaint pitched into the sixth inning and NL East-leading Atlanta beat St. Louis to snap a four-game skid.

The Braves have a magic number of six over Philadelphia to clinch their first division title since 2013. St. Louis, which had won three straight, leads Colorado by 1½ games for the second wild card.

Atlanta closer A.J. Minter, working in a non-save situation in the ninth, walked two to load the bases, but he struck out Jose Martinez and got Paul DeJong to pop up.

Freeman's 23rd homer, an opposite-field shot to left-center, put the Braves up 2-0 in the fourth against Jack Flaherty (8-8). Toussaint (2-1) allowed five hits and two runs in 5 2/3 innings.
DIAMONDBACKS 9, CUBS 0
PHOENIX (AP) — Christian Walker and Chris Owings homered off Cole Hamels, and Robbie Ray held Chicago Cubs to one hit over six innings in Arizona's victory. □



Miami Marlins manager Don Mattingly speaks with the press before a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds in Miami, Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018.

Associated Press

By STEVEN WINE
AP Sports Writer

MIAMI (AP) — Derek Jeter signaled Thursday that Don Mattingly is expected to return next year as manager of the Miami Marlins, providing some dugout conti-

nuity for a last-place team in transition.

Mattingly has one season to go on a four-year contract he signed when he joined the Marlins for the 2016 season.

"Is he going to be back in

Jeter: Mattingly expected to return in '19 as Miami manager

2019?" Jeter said. "He's under contract. Yeah."

The Marlins will finish last in the NL East in Jeter's first year as CEO. They began their final home series of the season Thursday with a record of 59-92, giving Mattingly a three-year record of 215-259 (.454).

Mattingly has said he likes the challenge of developing the Marlins' many young players. He also has embraced Jeter's approach to rebuilding a franchise that hasn't had a winning season since 2009, the longest streak in the majors, and hasn't been to the playoffs since 2003.

"The one thing you can

count on with Derek is that what he says, he's going to do," Mattingly said. "He talked about building the minor league system, building this thing the right way. I don't think there's one thing he talked about publicly that he hasn't backed up with his actions. You trust what he says and what he's going to do."

This year's poor record was expected after the Marlins traded half their starting lineup for prospects last offseason to reduce payroll and fortify a weak farm system.

Even so, losing has been tough for Jeter, who played for a perennial contender

when he was shortstop for the New York Yankees.

"That's the ultimate judge for a team — wins and losses," Jeter said. "But this is a transitional year for us to learn as much as we possible could about this organization." The Marlins will finish last in the majors in attendance, and last in the NL for the 13th time in 14 years. Their crowds have averaged fewer than 10,000, the worst figure in the majors since the Montreal Expos' final season in 2004. "That's something we need to improve," Jeter said. "Where we're starting from, the only way we can go is up." □

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Luke Voit powers Yankees past Red Sox, 10-1

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Luke Voit hit two homers off David Price, Miguel Andujar popped another one barely into the right-field seats and the New York Yankees stalled Boston's division-clinching celebration by beating the Red Sox 10-1 on Wednesday night.

Luis Severino (18-8) pitched seven innings of one-run ball, and the Yankees had no need for All-Star closer Aroldis Chapman on the day they activated him from the disabled list. Chapman had been out since Aug. 21 with left knee tendinitis.

Mookie Betts had two strikeouts and no hits in his return to Boston's lineup. He pulled a possible grand slam just foul in the ninth before grounding into a game-ending double play. The AL MVP contender sat out Tuesday after injuring his left side two days earlier, but came back to bat leadoff as the designated hitter.

The Yankees will try to send Boston packing Thursday with the AL East still undecided. The Red Sox lead the division by 9 1/2 games and entered this three-game series needing one victory to lock up the division. New York maintained a 2 1/2-game lead over Oakland for the top AL wild card.

Price (15-7) surrendered three homers this time, each aided by Yankee

Stadium's short right-field porch. Andujar hit his 25th just over the wall for a 1-0 lead in the second, and Voit added solo shots in the fourth and sixth to nearly the same spot.

ATHLETICS 10, ANGELS 0
OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Stephen Piscotty hit a three-run homer and matched his career high with five RBIs, and Oakland beat Los Angeles to snap a three-game skid.

Oakland moved within four games of first-place Houston in the AL West and stayed 5 1/2 ahead of streaking Tampa Bay for the second wild card.

Jed Lowrie and Piscotty each hit a two-run double in a six-run fourth to back Brett Anderson (4-5), who pitched 6 2/3 sharp innings. Three relievers finished the four-hitter as Oakland's 14th shutout of the season took just 2 hours, 23 minutes.

Angels starter Felix Pena (3-5) was done after the fourth, allowing six runs and six hits.

INDIANS 4, WHITE SOX 1
CLEVELAND (AP) — Jason Kipnis hit a grand slam with one out in the ninth inning and Cleveland beat Chicago.

Kipnis hit a 3-2 pitch from Ian Hamilton into the right field seats for his 1,000th career hit and was doused with buckets of water by his teammates as he conducted a postgame television interview.

The AL Central champi-

ons were held to two hits through eight innings before their comeback.

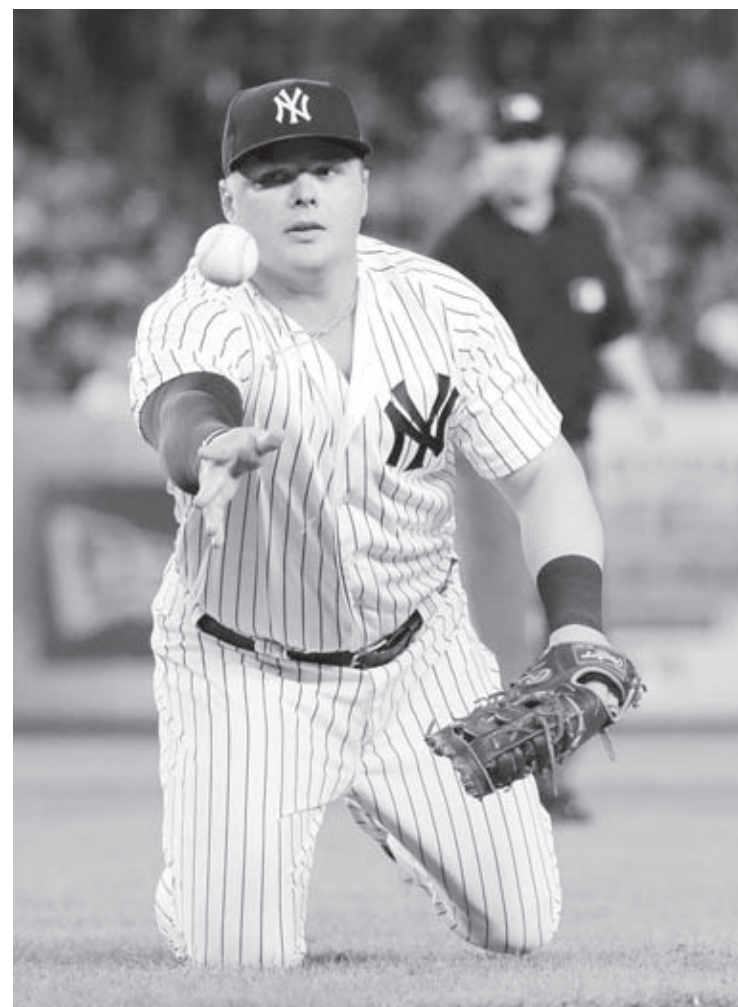
Josh Donaldson started the inning with an infield hit. Pitcher Juan Minaya fielded the ball that rolled about 30 feet up the third base line, but Donaldson beat the throw to first. Pinch-hitter Yandy Diaz bounced a single through the left side that moved pinch-runner Rajai Davis to second.

Melky Cabrera popped up a bunt attempt to the mound that was caught by reliever Caleb Frare (0-1). Hamilton replaced Frare, but hit Yan Gomes with the first pitch to load the bases. Oliver Perez (1-1) got the final out in the ninth for the Indians.

Daniel Palka homered for the White Sox.

MARINERS 9, ASTROS 0
HOUSTON (AP) — Robinson Cano drove in three runs, Kyle Seager, Mitch Haniger and Guillermo Heredia homered and seven pitchers combined for a five-hitter in Seattle's victory over Houston.

The Mariners took two of three in the series from AL West-leading Houston. Seattle rookie Matt Festa made his first career start on a bullpen day for the Mariners and threw a perfect first inning before Casey Lawrence (1-0) took over and allowed one hit in three innings. Adam Warren, Shawn Armstrong, Zach Duke, Justin Grimm



New York Yankees first baseman Luke Voit tosses the ball to starting pitcher Luis Severino for the out on Boston Red Sox's Andrew Benintendi during the fifth inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press

and Roenis Elias pitched an inning each to close it out. Dallas Keuchel (11-11) was the loser.

RAYS 9, RANGERS 3
ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Tommy Pham homered twice and extended his on-base streak to 21 games and late-surging Tampa Bay completed a three-game sweep of Texas.

The Rays have won 14 of 17 games in September. They have 11 remaining and are 5 1/2 games behind Oakland for the American League's second wild card. Adrian Beltre hit his 13th homer for the last-place Rangers. It was the 475th

of his career to match Stan Musial and Willie Stargell for 30th on the career lost. He's 15th with 3,159 hits.

Ryan Yarbrough (15-5), the second of five Tampa Bay pitchers, went four innings for the win. Jake Bauers had a two-run single and scored on Willy Adames' single in the second off lefty Yohander Mendez (2-2) to put the Rays ahead to stay at 3-0. Pham hit his 18th homer leading off the third, and Matt Duffy's two-run double in the fourth made it 8-1. Pham went deep again in the eighth for his seventh career multihomer game. □

No rest for WNBA champs Bird, Stewart and Loyd

By DOUG FEINBERG

AP Basketball Writer

TENERIFE, Spain (AP) — It's been a whirlwind week for Breanna Stewart, Sue Bird and Jewell Loyd. The trio won a WNBA championship with the Seattle Storm and then dashed off to play for USA Basketball in the FIBA Women's World Cup.

"It's been busy, now we are turning the page," said Stewart, the WNBA MVP of both the regular season and the Finals. "We did everything we wanted to. Won a championship and had a parade. Now we are switching gears. We'll have more of an appreciation of what we did the last month when this is over. Now we're just focused on helping USA Basketball and do what we can to win."

Seattle won the title on Sept. 12, sweeping Washington in the best-of-five series. The team flew back from D.C. the next day and then had a parade three days later to celebrate the championship.

The three players and coach Dan Hughes were on a plane the next day to Spain.

"The last week has been insane, the fact we won a week ago and now are here," Stewart said Thursday.

It's not the first time Bird has had to do this. The Storm last won a title in 2010 and Bird and then-teammate Swin Cash had to fly to the Czech Republic soon after



In this Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018, file photo, from left, Seattle Storm's Sue Bird, Jewell Loyd and Breanna Stewart celebrate during the first half of Game 3 of the WNBA basketball finals against the Washington Mystics in Fairfax, Va.

Associated Press

to get ready for the world championship.

"You just do, there's no science to it. After we won in Washington, we had a good three to four days to really enjoy it," Bird said. "The city did a wonderful job with the parade, the rally. As a team we got to hang out pretty much every night. The city was amazing, everyone was buying us dinner and drinks wherever we went. It starts

to wind down and you flip the switch and start all over again."

While Bird is playing in her fifth world championship, this is Loyd's first.

"It means a lot. Any time you have a USA jersey on is an honor," Loyd said. "To do it with the teammates who I just won a championship with makes it even more special. I'm excited for this new journey and to add to my legacy."

Seattle Storm teammate Sami Whitcomb also is in Spain, playing for Australia. Bird joked that she warned her American teammates before their scrimmage on Wednesday that Whitcomb could shoot extremely well, and yet she still hit a few open looks.

"To see her get rewarded in this way, it's pretty cool," Bird said.

Hughes knows he'll have plenty of time to celebrate

his first WNBA title after this two-week stretch is finished, hopefully with a gold medal. For now, he's enjoying the chance to be an assistant to U.S. coach Dawn Staley.

"It's fun for me, I spent 16 years as a collegiate assistant and actually felt like that period was a good period of my life. I enjoyed it, liked being an assistant," he said. "It's fun to revisit it in that regard. How to be helpful to Dawn as opposed to being the final decision-maker."

The Storm players aren't the only ones from the Finals in the World Cup. Washington Mystics star Elena Delle Donne is playing in it for the first time. For her, the World Cup is a chance to get back on the court and move past the disappointing end to the season.

"I was just dwelling till I got here," she said. "And now I have something new to focus on. It's nice to be able to compete again and win something."

Delle Donne said the bone bruise in her left knee that limited her during the playoffs is getting better, but she will talk to Staley about her playing time.

"It's pretty much Dawn and I talk it out and see how it feels and go from there," Delle Donne said. "I had to convince my doctors. I told them I wouldn't be going crazy minutes, I'd be smart. When this is done I have time to go rest and recover and be all right." □

Continued from Page 17

General manager Jason Botterill said the key to Reinhart's turnaround was how he established himself as a player unafraid of playing in front of an opposing net. He said it's on both Reinhart and his coaching staff to continue his development. Botterill was impressed with Reinhart's approach during contract talks. He kept in touch with the team over the summer and traveled to Buffalo to take part in informal workouts with his teammates before camp opened, then returned to Vancouver last week.



In this March 2, 2018, file photo, Buffalo Sabres center Sam Reinhart (23) battles for the puck with Florida Panthers defenseman Keith Yandle (3) during the first period of an NHL hockey game in Sunrise, Fla.

Associated Press

"I think it's just not words, it was his actions," Botterill said. "It's been evident that Sam wants to be part of our solution here in Buffalo." The two-time 20-goal scorer has 65 goals and 140 points in 249 career games. Reinhart rejoins a roster that was overhauled this summer after the Sabres finished last in the standings for a third time in five years. Despite the additions of forwards Conor Sheary and Jeff Skinner, Reinhart is being counted upon to reclaim his role on one of the top two lines. Coach Phil Housley said there's a chance Reinhart

could make his preseason debut as early as Saturday, when Buffalo hosts Toronto. NOTES: Botterill expects Sheary to be ready for the start of the season despite the forward suffering an upper body injury on Sept. 14. ... The Sabres are buying out the final year of Vaclav Karabacek's contract after the forward cleared waivers. Karabacek was Buffalo's second-round pick in the 2014 draft and had eight goals and 16 assists in 51 games split between the Sabres' two minor-league affiliates over the past two years. □

UFC's Jones suspended 15 months by USADA; can return in fall

By GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Former UFC light heavyweight champion Jon Jones is eligible to return to competition by late October after completing a 15-month suspension for a doping violation.

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency on Wednesday announced the length of Jones' ban for his second violation of the UFC's anti-doping policy. He has been suspended since testing positive for a steroid metabolite last summer, and the ban will conclude Oct. 28 — 15 months after the collection of the positive sample.

The decision by an arbitrator means the 31-year-old Jones could even fight at UFC 230 in New York on Nov. 3, if the mixed martial arts promotion decides to book his comeback bout on that card.

"It's difficult to express myself at this moment, but I can definitely say my heart is filled with gratitude and appreciation," Jones said in a statement posted on his social media accounts. "I want to thank all of you who have stood by me during the toughest stretch of my life. It has meant the world to me and always



In this July 7, 2016, file photo, mixed martial arts fighter Jon Jones reacts as he speaks during a news conference in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

will. But now is the time to shift the focus front and center to the road ahead. Greatness is what I'm chasing and the path to reclaiming my throne is now officially open. Comeback Season begins now." Jones could have been suspended for four years for a second failed test, but arbitrator Richard H. McLaren determined the ban's length by evaluating Jones' degree of fault. Jones claimed he didn't knowingly take any banned sub-

stances, and he passed several out-of-competition drug tests leading up to his failed in-competition test, one day before UFC 214 in Anaheim, California. California State Athletic Commission executive officer Andy Foster said his group is "agreeable, in concept" to the 15-month suspension, but added that Jones still must pay a \$205,000 fine. The relative leniency of the suspension — and the fact that it ends one week be-

fore UFC 230, which currently has no main event for Madison Square Garden — attracted bemusement from some of his fellow fighters on Twitter. Lightweight champion Khabib Nurmagomedov used an expletive to refer to USADA while complaining its decision includes too "much politics." Heavyweight Curtis Blaydes also weighed in: "No shade to JJ but no one is surprised by this arbitrary decision. USADA is steadily losing re-

spect in the fight community to the point of questioning why they even exist."

Jones (22-1, 1 no-contest) is widely considered the best pound-for-pound mixed martial artist in the world, but he has repeatedly sabotaged his own career.

He reclaimed the light heavyweight title from Daniel Cormier last year, but the victory was taken away when he tested positive.

Jones also failed an out-of-competition doping test in 2016, testing positive for two anti-estrogen agents. That result forced the late cancellation of his headline bout against Cormier at UFC 200. Jones, who claimed the result was due to a sexual enhancement pill, received a yearlong suspension.

Jones tested positive for cocaine use in 2015, later publicly acknowledging that he used the drug. His checkered history also includes an arrest after a hit-and-run accident in New Mexico in which he broke a pregnant woman's arm in 2015, a scuffle with Cormier in a casino lobby while promoting a bout in 2014, and an arrest for driving under the influence after he crashed his Bentley into a pole in 2012. □



The May 24, 2016 file photo shows a RUSADA sign reading "Russian National Anti-doping Agency" on a building in Moscow, Russia.

Associated Press

VICTORIA, Seychelles (AP)

— The World Anti-Doping Agency reinstated Russia on Thursday despite a wave of protests, ending the nearly three-year suspension of the country's drug-testing program because of a state-sponsored

doping scheme.

WADA's decision after a vote of its 12-member executive committee was called "the greatest treachery against clean athletes in Olympic history" by the lawyer of the whistleblower who helped uncover Rus-

World Anti-Doping Agency reinstates Russia

sia's cheating.

WADA decided to reinstate Russia after backtracking on two key conditions it had set for reinstatement: That Russia accept a report that concluded state involvement in the doping and cover-ups, and that Russia give access to evidence stored in its discredited Moscow laboratory. In announcing its decision to find the Russian Anti-Doping Agency compliant, WADA said it would be "subject to strict conditions."

There is now a "clear timeline" for Russia to grant WADA access to samples

stored in its Moscow lab, WADA president Craig Reedie said, but no date was announced.

There was no mention of Russia publicly accepting a state-sponsored conspiracy to help its athletes win Olympic medals by doping.

Reedie said a majority of the executive committee voted to reinstate Russia but didn't say what the vote count was.

Signs that WADA had suddenly softened its stance on Russia came last week when one of its key committees suddenly changed direction and surprisingly

recommended Russia be reinstated. That led to fierce criticism from anti-doping figures — some from within WADA itself — and athletes from around the world opposed to Russia's reinstatement.

Reedie's vice president at WADA, Norwegian politician Linda Helleland, said she would not be voting for reinstatement.

The Russian Anti-Doping Agency was suspended in November 2015 after the doping scandal, which centered on helping Russian athletes win medals at the 2014 Sochi Olympics, was revealed. □

Foreign government hackers target U.S. senators, aides' Gmail

By **FRANK BAJAK** and **RA-PHAEL SATTER**

AP Cybersecurity Writers

Attempts by foreign government hackers to break into the personal email accounts of U.S. senators and their aides persist — yet the Senate's security office is refusing to defend them, a lawmaker says.

Sen. Ron Wyden, an Oregon Democrat, said in a Wednesday letter to Senate leaders that his office discovered that "at least one major technology company" has warned an unspecified number of senators and aides that their personal email accounts were "targeted by foreign government hackers."

On Thursday, Google spokesman Aaron Stein confirmed that his company had notified the Senate targets.

Neither Stein nor Wyden provided any indication as to who might be behind the attempted break-ins, whether they targeted lawmakers from both political parties or their timing, though a Senate staffer said they occurred "in the last few weeks or months." The aide spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the issue publicly.

Email theft is favored by

hackers the world over, including the Russian military agents accused of leaking the content of Democrats' inboxes ahead of the 2016 elections, and personal accounts have proven to be the easiest targets.

Wyden noted that the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, which oversees Senate security, had informed legislators and staffers that it has no authority to help secure personal, rather than official, accounts.

"This must change," Wyden wrote in the letter. "The November election grows ever closer, Russia continues its attacks on our democracy, and the Senate simply does not have the luxury of further delays."

A spokeswoman for the security office said it would have no comment.

Wyden has proposed legislation that would allow the security office to offer digital protection for personal accounts and devices, the same way it does with official ones.

The Wyden letter cites previous Associated Press reporting on the Russian hacking group known as Fancy Bear and how it targeted the personal accounts of congressional aides between 2015 and 2016. The group's prolific



In this June 28, 2018, file photo, Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee, speaks during a hearing on the nomination of Charles Rettig for Internal Revenue Service Commissioner on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

cyberspying targeted the Gmail accounts of current and former Senate staffers, including Robert Zarate, now national security adviser to Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, and Jason Thielman, chief of staff to Montana Sen. Steve Daines, the AP found.

The same group also spent the second half of 2017 laying digital traps intended to look like portals where Senate officials enter their work email credentials, the

Tokyo-based cybersecurity firm TrendMicro has reported.

Microsoft seized some of those traps, and in September 2017 apparently thwarted an attempt to steal login credentials of a policy aide to Missouri Sen. Claire McCaskill, the Daily Beast discovered in July. Last month, Microsoft made news again when it seized several internet domains linked to Fancy Bear, including two apparently

aimed at conservative think tanks in Washington.

Such incidents "only scratch the surface" of advanced cyberthreats faced by U.S. officials in the administration and Congress, according to Thomas Rid, a cybersecurity expert at Johns Hopkins University. Rid made the statement in a letter to Wyden last week.

"The personal accounts of senators and their staff are high-value, low-hanging targets," Rid wrote. □



In this Sept. 16, 2018 photo a fuel cell train which is powered by hydrogen arrives in Bremervoerde, northern Germany. It is one of two trains that will go into regular service in 2019.

Associated Press

By **FRANK JORDANS**
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Dozens of European countries are backing a plan to increase the use of hydrogen as an alternative to fossil fuels to cut the continent's carbon emissions.

Energy officials from 25

countries pledged Tuesday to increase research into hydrogen technology and accelerate its everyday use to power factories, drive cars and heat homes. The proposal, which was included in a non-binding agreement signed in Linz, Austria, includes the idea

European nations plan to use more hydrogen for energy needs

of using existing gas grids to distribute hydrogen produced with renewable energy.

The idea of a "hydrogen economy," where fuels that release greenhouse gases are replaced with hydrogen, has been around for decades. Yet uptake on the concept has been slow so far, compared with some other technologies.

Advocates of hydrogen say it can solve the problem caused by fluctuating supplies of wind, solar, hydro and other renewable energies. By converting electricity generated from those sources into hydrogen, the energy can be stored in

large tanks and released again when needed.

Electric vehicles can also use hydrogen to generate power on board, allowing manufacturers to overcome the range restrictions of existing batteries. Hydrogen vehicles can be refueled in a fraction of the time it takes to recharge a battery-powered vehicle.

On Monday the world's first commuter train service using a prototype hydrogen-powered train began in northern Germany.

The European Union's top climate and energy official said hydrogen could help the bloc meet its obligations to cut carbon

emissions under the 2015 Paris accord. Miguel Arias Canete told reporters it could also contribute to the continent's energy security by reducing imports of natural gas, much of which currently comes from Russia and countries outside of Europe. Kirsten Westphal, an energy expert at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, said encouraging the use of hydrogen as a means of storing and transporting energy makes sense, but added the overall goal for should be reducing fossil fuels rather than pushing a particular energy alternative. □

S&P 500 gets new look as it shuffles some key companies

By MARLEY JAY
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — It's almost moving day on the stock market.

The line-ups of three of the 11 groups that make up the benchmark S&P 500 index are being shuffled as of Monday. Twenty companies in the index including famous names like Facebook, Alphabet and Netflix will find a new home.

The most notable change will occur with the telecommunications group, currently the smallest piece of the market. It gets reinvented as communication services and grows from three to 19 companies, adding some key names from the technology and the consumer discretionary sectors. The S&P's changes reflect the way the communications and media industries have evolved. AT&T and Verizon were once known as phone companies, but they're now media companies as well: AT&T just bought Time Warner, the



This Jan. 17, 2017, file photo, shows Netflix on a tablet, in North Andover, Mass.

Associated Press

parent of HBO and Warner Bros. movie studio, and Comcast bought NBCUniversal in 2013. Streaming services were a big reason for the telecom industry's

shift, and now those companies will be in the same part of the market as Netflix.

The S&P index itself will still be made up of the same

500 companies, but the moves could change how investors think about them and how they approach the market. Analysts will help shape those views as

they publish research on the new sector.

The stock market could become a bit more volatile since many ETFs and funds offer products that track the S&P 500's sectors. They'll make trades to match the changes in the S&P 500.

The three companies in the telecom group right now are AT&T, Verizon, and their smaller peer CenturyLink. Next week they'll be joined the new sector by some broadcasting and media companies, video game publishers and social media companies. Alphabet and Facebook are the most notable additions — their combined value of about \$1.25 trillion will account for about half of the new sector's total value.

The old telecommunications sector has been considered a safe bet because AT&T and Verizon pay big dividends and their stocks tend to do well when the broader market declines. The new sector looks a bit riskier. □

Japan digital currency exchange hacked, losing \$60 million

By YURI KAGEYAMA
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Hackers have stolen 6.7 billion yen (\$60 million) worth of cryptocurrencies from a Japanese digital currency exchange, the operators said Thursday.

Tech Bureau Corp. said a server for its Zaif exchange was hacked for two hours last week, and some digital currencies got unlawfully relayed from what's called a "hot wallet," or where virtual coins are stored at such exchanges.

The exchange was taken offline until details of the damage could be confirmed, and efforts were underway to get it back working, Tech Bureau said. Japan has been bullish on virtual money and has set up a system requiring exchanges to be licensed to help protect consumers. The system is also meant to make Japan a global leader in the technology. Bitcoin has been a legal form of payment in Japan since

April 2017, and a handful of major retailers here already accept bitcoin payments. But the recurrence of cryptocurrency heists shows problems persist.

Earlier this year, the Tokyo-based exchange Coincheck reported a 58 billion yen (\$547 million) loss of a cryptocurrency called NEM from suspected criminal hacking.

Coincheck, in operation since 2012, had been applying for a government license but had not yet gotten one. That led to industry-wide soul-searching, led by government financial regulators, to prevent such problems.

Zaif got registered with the government last year.

The company said Thursday it had accepted a 5 billion yen (\$45 million) offer from Fisco, a Tokyo-based investment company, for a majority stake in Tech Bureau, headquartered in Osaka.

The cryptocurrencies stolen in last week's hack included



This Feb. 2, 2018, photo, shows a signboard of the name of cryptocurrency exchange Coincheck, in Tokyo.

Associated Press

Bitcoin and Monacoin. Of the stolen money, 2.2 billion yen (\$20 million) belonged to the company, and the rest were customers' assets, according to Tech Bureau. Earlier this year, a glitch at Zaif allowed some people to buy cryptocurrencies for zero yen. □




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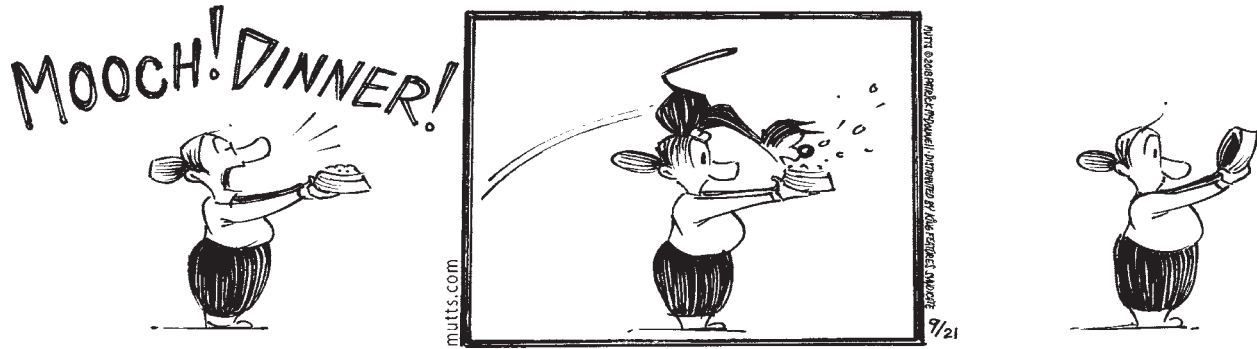
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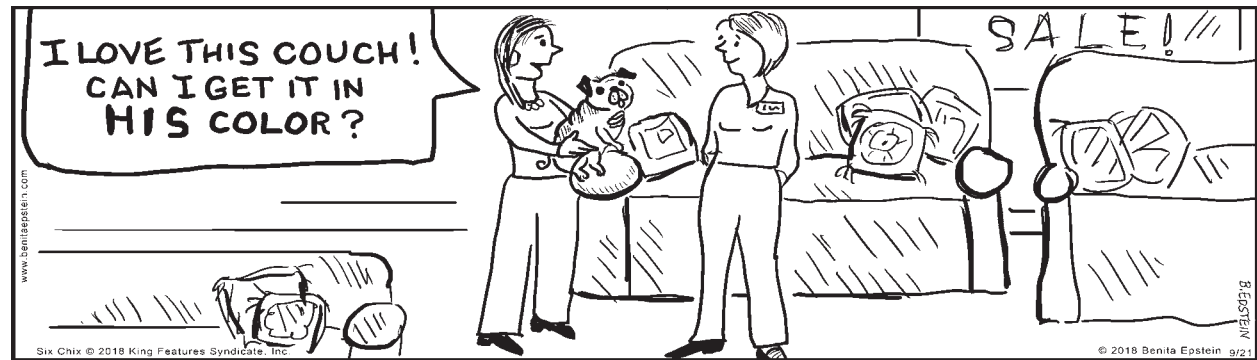
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			3		9			
		5	6		4	2		
	1						7	
3	8						5	4
4	2						6	7
	4						1	
		9	7		5	3		
			1		3			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

9/21

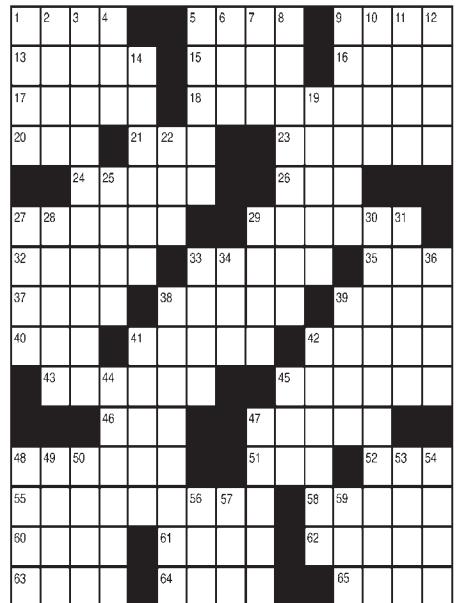
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

9	8	2	1	6	3	4	7	5
4	6	1	8	5	7	3	2	9
5	3	7	2	9	4	6	8	1
8	4	5	7	3	9	1	6	2
6	2	9	4	1	8	7	5	3
1	7	3	5	2	6	9	4	8
3	9	8	6	4	5	2	1	7
2	5	4	9	7	1	8	3	6
7	1	6	3	8	2	5	9	4

ACROSS

- 1 The one and the other
5 Tiny weight
9 Fellow
13 TV's "Green ____"
15 Learn by ____; memorize
16 Mister in Munich
17 Begin
18 ____ school; dog class
20 Neighbor of Okla.
21 Long-eared animal
23 Like formal attire
24 Sad ____; pitiful folks
26 Spanish article
27 Like syrup or glue
29 Hats for bishops
32 Throws
33 Kidney woe
35 Location of the incus
37 Carney & others
38 ____ downhill; worsening
39 Long skirt
40 Pasture cry
41 Slippery
42 Beauty parlor
43 Mortar-smoothing tool
45 Be present at
46 Split ____ soup
47 Accumulate
48 Respect highly
51 Four qts.
52 Lid
55 Abundant
58 Pack animal
60 Baseball's Ruth
61 Off-limits
62 Wedding dress fabric
63 ____ up; accelerated
64 Get bigger
65 Gambles
- ## DOWN
- 1 Sunbathe
2 Prefix meaning "eight"
3 Tiny radio
4 That girl
5 Disgusting
6 Estes or Lowe
7 Dined
8 Like a busybody
9 Gouda or Swiss
10 Egg producers
11 Curved bands of sparks
12 Hunted animal
14 Piles
19 Up in arms
22 Wild blue yonder
25 Performances
27 Con game
28 Fortune-teller's deck
29 Friar
30 Century 21's business
31 Anglo-____; Englishman
33 Dirt
34 ____-tac-toe
36 Orange peel
38 Glistening



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/21/18

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

B	U	D	A	S	W	A	N	U	F	O	S
P	A	N	E	S	P	I	R	O	N	O	N
A	R	M	S	S	A	N	C	T	I	F	I
L	E	E	T	U	N	E	S	B	A	L	S
R	O	A	M	S	P	S	I				
A	C	C	U	S	E	A	L	E	R	T	S
W	H	I	S	K	J	A	P	A	N	R	O
R	A	F	T	C	A	S	E	Y	D	E	L
Y	O	U	S	I	G	H	S	T	I	M	E
S	L	A	N	T	S	A	R	R	E	S	T
B	E	E	P	R	E	E	N				
B	R	I	B	E	S	P	R	E	E	D	A
L	A	C	E	R	A	T	I	O	N	F	O
E	K	E	S	P	A	N	D	A	O	U	T
W	E	D	S	T	R	E	S	S	E	S	

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9/21/18

- 39 Floor pads
41 Sugary
42 Delays on purpose
44 Unlocked
45 "I ____ Rock"; Simon & Garfunkel hit
47 Shining
48 Diminishes
49 Daytime serial
50 Toothpaste holder
53 Leave out
54 Cookware
56 In favor of
57 Truffle-type candy bar
59 Popular dog, for short

New US survey shows some progress against opioid crisis

By CARLA K. JOHNSON
Associated Press

Figures from a U.S. government survey released Friday show some progress in the fight against the ongoing opioid addiction crisis with fewer people in 2017 using heroin for the first time compared to the previous year.

The number of new users of heroin decreased from 170,000 in 2016 to 81,000 in 2017, a one-year drop that would need to be sustained for years to reduce the number of fatal overdoses, experts said.

Fewer Americans are misusing or addicted to prescription opioid painkillers. And more people are getting treatment for heroin and opioid addiction, the survey found.

The Trump administration said the positive trends show government efforts are working.

Messages are reaching people about the dangers of heroin and the deadly contaminants it often contains on the street, Dr. Elinore McCance-Katz, an administration health official, said in a video presentation released with the figures.

Among the other findings: —Marijuana use climbed in all age groups except young teenagers, with 2.5 percent of those 26 and



This Aug. 29, 2018 photo shows an arrangement of prescription Oxycodone pills in New York.

Associated Press

older, or 5.3 million adults, reporting they use marijuana daily or almost daily last year.

—Methamphetamine and cocaine use climbed in young adults, ages 18 to 25. The uptick may indicate that users are shifting from opioids to other drugs, said Leo Beletsky, a public health policy expert at Northeastern University in Boston.

—Young adults have increasing rates of serious mental illness, major depression and suicidal thoughts.

—The number of new heroin users in 2017 — 81,000 — was lower than the numbers in most years from 2009 to 2016. But it was similar to the numbers of new heroin users in 2002 through 2008. Experts said there's still work to be done before success can be declared.

"Taken together, this does not look like the portrait of a nation with improving mental health and addiction issues," said Brendan Saloner, an addiction researcher at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. "It's hard to look at this and not think we need to be doing a better job than we're doing now."

Earlier this month, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released preliminary figures that appear to show a leveling off in overdose deaths in late 2017 and the first two months of this year. Health officials have said it's too soon to say whether the nation's drug crisis has peaked. But in an interview with The Associated Press this week, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said several measures of the crisis are improving. □

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Deadly plant disease threatens \$250M rose business

By JANET McCONNAUGHEY
NEW ORLEANS (AP) —

The outlook for American-grown roses is becoming a bit less rosy, with the spread of an incurable virus that's causing major damage to the nation's \$250-million-a-year rose business.

U.S. rose bush producers account for the bulk of that business and face a growing challenge from rose rosette disease, which can kill roses within three years. Its many symptoms include super-thorny stems and clusters of stems called rosettes or witches' brooms.

One producer spent \$1 million getting rid of rose rosette disease and some smaller nurseries have had to destroy 10,000 plants, said Dr. David Byrne of Texas A&M University, leader of a \$4.6 million multistate project to study the virus and the mite that spreads it, and to find resistant rose varieties.

"It moves real easily and it's hard to detect initially. ... That's really scary for someone in production," Byrne said. "If it gets in their pots in their production areas, they've got to eliminate thousands of plants. Even then they don't know if they've got rid of it."

He also said, "I think we're seeing it in more areas now than 10 years ago."

The virus, spread by wind-blown mites about half the length of a grain of salt, has been found in at least 30 states. In Texas, the Fort Worth Botanic Garden had to replace its entire rose collection. The virus recently was found to have spread in northwest Louisiana, including the home city of the American Rose Society and its gardens — the largest U.S. park devoted to the national flower.

Rose rosette has been



A rose bush with the telltale signs of rose rosette virus is pictured at Oklahoma State University's Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic Laboratory research plot in Perkins, Okla., Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2018. Signs include super-thorny stems and clusters of stems called rosettes or "witches' brooms." Associated Press

known since the early 1940s — and was once hailed as a possible way to eradicate an invasive plant. The disease was first identified on wild multiflora roses in California, the Rocky

Mountains and Manitoba, Canada. In the 1990s and even the early 2000s, scientists considered it a possible way to control those invasive plants.

It became recognized as a problem for cultivated roses only in the last decade or so, Byrne said.

It's the latest blow to the business. South American competition forced most U.S. growers out of the cut flower market over the past several decades. That market has withered from \$200 million in 1990 to \$22 million in 2015.

This virus threatens the rose bush business, valued at more than \$200 million in 2015. It appears to be a growing issue as more and more cultivated roses are used in landscapes, according to a website created by a coalition of rose producers and scientists.

In Louisiana, where rose rosette disease was first detected in 2015, it's spreading at an alarming rate in commercial and residential plantings in Bossier City and in Shreveport, where the rose society's American Rose Center is located,

said Dr. Raj Singh, an LSU AgCenter plant pathologist.

The center's 40 acres (16.2 hectares) with rose gardens are free of the disease so far, said the society's executive director, Laura Seabaugh.

Unless an infected bush is removed, experts say, mites will spread the virus throughout a garden and beyond.

That can mean hard choices, said Dr. Mark T. Windham, who's testing plants at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville to find resistant varieties.

"I've had people tell me, 'The bush that has it, it's the only surviving clone of my great-grandmother's rose.' I hate to say it, but are you going to try to save that rose and put your 500-bush rose garden in jeopardy?" he said. The Fort Worth Botanic Garden uprooted about 2,000 bushes in 2015, rosarian Jeffrey Myers said. He said their close-set rows let mites "crawl through like a highway from rose to rose." The botanic garden now has about 350 rose bushes, set at least 3 to 4 feet (1 to 1.3 meters) apart, with other plants in between as mite roadblocks. Byrne says some large landscapers are not using roses because it's too expensive to maintain them.

Customers still want them but won't pay to replace infected plants, said Joe Ketterer, with Ruppert Landscape of Laytonsville, Maryland, which works in six states and the District of Columbia. He said his company uses roses but prunes out affected branches, using hormones to stimulate growth in parts of the same plant without symptoms.

At Tennessee-Knoxville, the University of Delaware and Oklahoma State, researchers lodge infected, mite-infested twigs in the foliage of healthy plants to see which stay well.

"So far we have 20 roses that look good. This is their fourth year," Windham said. But their test won't be over until they've lasted a full four years without infection, he said. □



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Isabel Allende to receive honorary National Book Award medal

By HILLEL ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Isabel Allende, winner of an honorary National Book Award, sees no reason to discuss her legacy.

"I think legacy is a very masculine word," the author known for "The House of the Spirits" and other novels told The Associated Press during a recent telephone interview. "I don't think women think in terms of legacy very much. We're more practical and we know trends don't last for too long. People and things are forgotten. I am just very happy to have so many readers right now."

The National Book Foundation announced Thursday that Allende will be given a medal for "distinguished contribution to American letters." The Peruvian native is the first Spanish-language author and first since Saul Bellow (in 1990) born outside the U.S. to receive the prize, which in previous years has gone to authors likely to be long remembered, including Bellow, Toni Morrison, Arthur Miller and Joan Didion.

"Through expertly crafted



In this June 5, 2017 file photo, Chilean author Isabel Allende poses for a photograph after the presentation of her latest book "Mas alla del invierno" ("In the midst of the winter") in Madrid.

Associated Press

and propulsive narratives, Allende elevates the stories and lives of women, never condescending to her readers or cheapening the experiences of her characters," Lisa Lucas, the book foundation's executive director, said in a statement. "Allende's work is proof that artistic excellence and commercial viability are not exclusive concepts,

and that the stories about women written with women in mind are not only good business, but also represent crucial contributions to the literary landscape."

Luis Alberto Urrea, best known for the acclaimed "The Devil's Highway," will present Allende with her medal at the National Book Award benefit dinner and ceremony in Manhattan.

The Nov. 14 event also will feature Doron Weber of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation receiving the Literarian Award for the foundation's long history of providing grants to writers.

Allende, 76, is among the world's most popular Spanish-language writers, with sales exceeding 60 million copies. Known for her multigenerational narratives

and style of "magical realism," she sees her life as defined by "love and violence." She weaves personal and political themes into her stories, set everywhere from Chile to the Bay Area, where Allende has lived since the 1980s. She has been translated into more than 30 languages and has had many works adapted to operas, plays and other media, including a film version of "House of the Spirits" starring Meryl Streep, Glenn Close and Jeremy Irons. Her previous honors include a Presidential Medal of Freedom, awarded in 2014, and, two years later, a lifetime achievement award from PEN Center USA.

She has completed more than 20 books, even though her first didn't come out until the year she turned 40. Born in Peru, she lived in Bolivia and Beirut as a child before settling in Chile, where her stepfather worked in the diplomatic corps. Allende also was a first cousin-once removed from Salvador Allende, Chile's president in the early '70s, and fled to Venezuela after he was overthrown in a military coup in 1973. □

J Balvin leads Latin Grammy noms with 8 nods, 1 with Beyonce

By SIGAL RATNER-ARIAS
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Reggaeton star J Balvin received eight Latin Grammy Award nominations on Thursday, including two for record of the year, one for album of the year and one for song of the year with Beyonce for their hit version of "Mi gente," also featuring Willy William.

Spanish sensation Rosalia is next with five nominations. Balvin, from Colombia, got two nominations for record of the year, for "Mi gente" with William and "X" with Nicky Jam, and an album of the year nod for "Vibras," a production he decided to do all-in-Spanish after having previously worked with American stars including Cardi B and Liam Payne. His nomination with Beyonce is for best urban fusion/performance.



In this April 26, 2018 file photo, J Balvin appears at the Billboard Latin Music Awards in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

In a statement, Balvin said: "All is cause and effect, and this is the effect of music with good vibes!!! Grateful." He dominates the best urban song category with three credits, in Anitta's "Downtown"; "Sensualidad,"

with Bad Bunny and Prince Royce, as well as "X". And he will compete for best urban music album for "Vibras."

Rosalia is nominated for record and song of the year for "Malamente," a hit that

combines flamenco and trap. It also got nods for best urban fusion/performance and best short form music video.

"I am very happy that 'Malamente' has gone so far, I did not imagine these nominations, even in my best dreams. The only thing I can do is to thank all those who have supported me and helped me along the way," Rosalia said in a statement.

For album of the year, Balvin will compete with an eclectic group of established and rising artists that includes Pablo Alboran ("Prometo"), Chico Buarque ("Caravanas"), Jorge Drexler ("Salvavidas de hielo"), El David Aguilar ("Siguiendo"), Kany García ("Soy yo"), Natalia Lafourcade ("Musas, un homenaje al folclore latinoamericano en nanos de Los Macorinos, Vol. 2"),

Luis Miguel ("¡México por siempre!"), Monsieur Perine ("Encanto tropical") and Rozalen ("Cuando el río suena...").

Those with four nominations include singer-songwriters El David Aguilar, Jorge Drexler, Kany García and Natalia Lafourcade, and producers Mauricio Rengifo and Andres Torres. Pablo Alboran, Monsieur Perine and Nicky Jam, among others, got three each.

Ten newcomers will compete for the coveted Latin Grammy for best new artist. They are Angela Aguilar, Anaadi, El David Aguilar, Alex Ferreira, Karol G, Los Petitfellas, Nana Mendoza, Christian Nodal, Claudia Prieto and Benjamin Walker.

The 19th Latin Grammys will be aired live on Nov. 15 from the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas. □

In 'Colette,' a literary great is finally unbound

By JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

Wash Westmoreland's "Colette" is a very British movie about a very French feminist icon. A handsome and lively period film, it's too timid to capture the ravenous appetites of the literary force that was Sidonie-Gabrielle Colette. But with Keira Knightley playing the prolific and trailblazing author, "Colette" has nimbly condensed an un-condensable life into a sprightly and self-evidently relevant biopic.

"My name is Claudine, I live in Montigny; I was born there in 1884; I shall probably not die there."

Those were the first lines in "Claudine à l'école," the 1900 coming-of-age novel that made the Burgundy-born Colette's fictional alter ego, Claudine, a sensation, as well as a highly lucrative industry. It was, however, published under the nom de plume of her husband ("Willy"), the rakish publisher Henry Gauthier-Villars (played by Dominic West in the film).

It would be years before



This image released by Bleeker Street shows Denise Gough, left, and Keira Knightley in a scene from "Colette."

Associated Press

Colette was writing under her own name, though once she did, she quickly established herself as, among many other things, one of France's greatest authors. She was nominated for a Nobel Prize in literature in 1948 and given a state funeral after her

death, at the Palais-Royal, in 1954. Along the way, she blazed a relentlessly unconventional path through Belle Epoque Paris, leaving behind a litany of affairs (with men and women), scandals of all sorts (an on-stage kiss with a woman at the Moulin Rouge sparked

a riot) and dozens of books, including 1944's "Gigi," written while her third husband was interned by the Nazis. To play its protagonist in a stage adaption, Colette found an unknown named Audrey Hepburn.

So, sure, try getting all that (and much more) into a

movie. Westmoreland ("Still Alice"), along with co-writers Richard Glatzer (Westmoreland's late husband) and Rebecca Lenkiewicz, have judiciously opted to concentrate on Colette's early period married to Gauthier-Villars, when she wrote the first Claudine books. On the one hand, this focus gives "Colette" a timely dramatic arc of female empowerment: This is when she not only finds her voice but eventually takes control of it. On the other, it frames Colette's life too much around Gauthier-Villars; he is there from the first scenes to the final ones. And in West's hands, he's a gloriously bombastic character, forever ducking creditors, carousing with women and prodding his ghost writers to keep his literary factor churning. At a low ebb, he encourages Colette to write. Though impressed by the results, he initially judges them uncommercial and "too feminine." "Too many adjectives," he says. Their scenes together sparkle with quick-witted dialogue. □

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JACK BLACK | CATE BLANCHETT
THE HOUSE OF CLOCKS
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG]
MON-THU 4:35 | 6:55 | 9:15
FRI 4:35 | 6:55 | 9:15 | 11:35
SAT 2:15 | 4:35 | 6:55 | 9:15 | 11:35
SUN & HOL 2:15 | 4:35 | 6:55 | 9:15

BLAKE LIVELY | ANNA KENDRICK
A Simple Favor
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [R]
MON-THU 3:45 | 8:20
FRI 3:45 | 8:20 | 10:50
SAT 3:20 | 8:20 | 10:50
SUN & HOL 3:20 | 8:20

DEMIÁN BICHIR | TAISSA FARMIGA
THE NUN
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [R]
MON-THU 5:05 | 7:20 | 9:35
FRI 5:05 | 7:20 | 9:35 | 11:50
SAT 2:50 | 5:05 | 7:20 | 9:35 | 11:50
SUN & HOL 2:50 | 5:05 | 7:20 | 9:35

RAYMOND POZO | MIGUEL CÉSPEDES
HERMANOS
SPANISH [PG-13]
MON-THU 5:10 | 7:10 | 9:10
FRI 5:10 | 7:10 | 9:10 | 11:10
SAT 3:10 | 5:10 | 7:10 | 9:10 | 11:10
SUN & HOL 3:10 | 5:10 | 7:10 | 9:10

JENNIFER GARNER | JOHN GALLAGHER JR.
PEPPERMINT [R]
MON-THU 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:20
FRI 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:20 | 11:40
SAT 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:20 | 11:40
SUN & HOL 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:20

JASON STATHAM | RUBY ROSE
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Macy Gray is enthusiastic, infectious on fun 'Ruby'

By PABLO GORONDI
Associated Press

Macy Gray, "Ruby" (Artistry Music)

Macy Gray sounds mainly joyful and enthusiastic on "Ruby" and the zest evident across her 10th album, even when the theme is misfortune or heartbreak, is infectious. Her trademark jazzy soul and R&B foundations are accounted for but the arrangements have a deceptively light touch and let Gray's vocals and effervescent personality shine through.

Opener "Buddha" features a guitar solo by Gary Clark Jr. and background vocals with a gospel feel, alternating an uplifting refrain of being "alright now" with the knowing "our days are numbered." □



This cover image released by Artistry Music shows "Ruby," a release by Macy Gray.

Associated Press

Giant bong, huggable buds: Marijuana museum opens in Vegas

By REGINA GARCIA CANO
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — A glass bong taller than a giraffe. Huggable faux marijuana buds. A pool full of foam weed nuggets.

Las Vegas' newest attraction — and Instagram backdrop — is a museum celebrating all things cannabis.

Nobody will be allowed to light up at Cannabition when it opens Thursday because of a Nevada ban on public consumption of marijuana, but visitors can learn about the drug as they snap photos.

It's a made-for-social-media museum where every exhibit has lights meant to ensure people take selfies worthy of the no-filter hashtag.

The facility — whose founder says has a goal of destigmatizing marijuana use — will likely land among the talking points officials and others use to try to draw gambling-resistant millennials to Sin City.

It will welcome its first visitors almost 15 months after



In this Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018 photo, people walk by the Cannabition cannabis museum in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

adults in Nevada began buying recreational marijuana legally, with sales far exceeding state projections.

"Our goal when people come out of this is that they don't fear the cannabis industry if they are not believers in the industry," founder J.J. Walker told The Associ-

ated Press. "Cannabition is not about just serving people that like marijuana, it's about serving the masses that want to learn about cannabis and or just have fun and go do a cool art experience."

Guests will wander through 12 installations with rooms like "seed," where people

can lie down in a bed shaped like a marijuana seed, and "grow," which features artificial plants in sizes ranging from inches to feet tall placed under bright lights to represent an indoor cannabis grow facility.

Photo ops are also available under a glow-in-the-

dark tree, next to a giant marijuana leaf meant to represent an edible gummy and by a 24-foot-tall (7-meter-tall) glass bong that's dubbed "Bongzilla" and billed as the world's largest.

There is a space with taller-than-you faux buds representing different strains and another room with gonzo journalist Hunter S. Thompson's famous "Red Shark" Chevrolet Caprice.

This museum in Las Vegas' downtown entertainment district is not the Smithsonian of marijuana, but it has some educational components. Guests get an introduction from museum guides and some graphics on walls explain how concentrates are made and the differences between indica and sativa cannabis strains. Museums always evolve with the times to remain relevant, and audience engagement is an important goal for the facilities today, said Gwen Chanzit, director of museum studies in art history at the University of Denver. □

Arthur Mitchell, pioneering black ballet dancer, dies at 84

By DEEPTI HAJELA
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Arthur Mitchell, who broke barriers for African-Americans in the 1950s as a ballet dancer with the New York City Ballet and who would go on to become a driving force in the creation of the Dance Theatre of Harlem, has died. He was 84.

Mitchell died Wednesday at a New York City hospital according to his niece, Juli Mills-Ross. She said the death came after renal failure led to heart failure.

Born in Harlem, Mitchell started dancing with the New York City Ballet in 1955 under famed choreographer George Balanchine. Balanchine put him in several leading roles, including one pairing him with a white female dancer in "Agon" in 1957.

In a January interview with The New York Times, Mitchell recalled the daring of that choice.

"Can you imagine the audacity to take an African-American and Diana Adams, the essence and purity of Caucasian dance, and to put them together on the stage?" he said.

In 1968, impacted by the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., Mitchell started a dance school that grew the next year to include the Dance Theatre of Harlem.

Anna Glass, the executive director of the Dance Theatre, told The Associated Press that Mitchell "truly was a visionary."

"He believed in a world where all people could have access to this beautiful art form," she said. "He really sought to ensure that all people saw themselves in" ballet.

Among those recognizing his impact following his death was Misty Copeland, the first African-American female principal dancer with the American Ballet Theatre.



In this Oct. 21, 2004 file photo, Arthur Mitchell, co-founder of the Dance Theatre of Harlem appears in New York.

Associated Press

In a post on Instagram, she wrote, "You gave me so much, through our conversations, your dancing and by simply existing as a brown body in ballet. But you were so much more than a brown body. You're an icon and hero."

Choreographer and television producer Debbie Allen tweeted, "The world has

lost another visionary" with Mitchell's death.

"Arthur Mitchell claimed ballet as an American art form," she said. "His legacy lives through all of us."

Mitchell was born in 1934, and grew up with four siblings. He started formal dance training in high school, and upon graduating, took the offer of a

ballet scholarship with the School of American Ballet, founded by Balanchine and Lincoln Kirstein.

His dancing years also included choreographing his own works, performing on Broadway, and working with dance companies in other countries. The Dance Theatre of Harlem performed internationally and has been artistically acclaimed even as it went through some periods of financial upheaval. He stepped down as director almost a decade ago.

Glass said Mitchell had most recently spent time at the company last month, during a two-week residency in which he restaged one of his older ballets to be performed next April as the company marks its 50th anniversary.

"This was a moment that all of us were looking forward to," Glass said. "I know we will miss him tremendously." □

Making, drinking arak a source of national pride in Lebanon

By FADI TAWIL

Associated Press

TAANAYEL, Lebanon (AP)

— Every part of Lebanon's national drink, arak, is infused with tradition — from distilling the aniseed-tinged liquor to the ritual of mixing it at the table, when the transparent liquid suddenly turns milky white as water is added.

Arak is a staple of big Sunday meals. With a sweet taste and high alcohol content, around 40 percent, it's best consumed with food — lots of it. That makes it perfect for Lebanon's traditional meze, spreads of never-ending small dishes that family and friends linger over for hours.

Aficionados say arak is vital to digesting the home-made raw meat dishes that are central to a meze. The real impact comes at the end of the meal, when you stand up after all that eating and the alcohol from glass after glass really hits. But the tradition is facing competition in Lebanon as young generations opt for liquors like vodka or whiskey that are easier to mix and drink — without a meal.

Arak is comparable to Greece's ouzo or Turkey's raki, which are also grape-based drinks with the licorice-like flavor of anise. Lebanese say arak is smoother. Many families make it at home, each boasting their particular flavor and kick. Restaurants often serve both commercially produced versions and home-made varieties, known as



In this Saturday Sept. 8, 2018 photo, a Lebanese man drinks arak from a traditional glass pitcher during a festival that celebrates Lebanon's national alcoholic drink, in the town of Taanayel, east Lebanon.

Associated Press

"Arak Baladeh." Regulars usually opt for the home-made. With so much home production, it is hard to tell how much arak is made. Lebanon's Blom Bank estimated in 2016 that around 2 billion bottles a year are produced in the country, with nearly a quarter of it exported, mostly for Lebanese expats yearning for their local drink.

At a recent festival in Taanayel, a town east of Beirut, several commercial companies and smaller boutique houses showcased their araks in a celebration aimed at promoting the drink to the young. Christiane Issa, whose fam-

ily owns one of Lebanon's largest arak producers, Doumaine de Tourelles, said the drink is a natural digestif. It was a nod to Lebanon's growing market for holistic and natural products.

"The most important thing about arak is that our grandfathers used herbs to treat illness, not medicine. They believed in herbs, so they chose to make arak with green anise because it has anethole, a compound that aids digestion," said Issa, the company's administrative manager.

Some Beirut bars have introduced an infused version of arak, adding a twig of basil or rosemary, to attract young drinkers. Issa suggests watermelon.

Passions run strong over every detail of arak tradition. It is to be drunk from small glasses — bigger than a shot glass but smaller than an Old Fashioned glass — arranged on a tray at the top of a table laden with meze. A new glass is used with each new serving. Some prefer to drink it in a tall glass.

It is often mixed in a traditional glass pitcher, round with a short beak-like spout. That makes it easy to drink straight from the pitcher when the party really gets

going.

Drinkers staunchly debate the best way to mix.

Some prefer half water, half arak — a strong, sweet mix, usually not for the newbies. More common is one-third arak to two-thirds water, to prolong the drinking and the gathering.

The ice cubes are another discussion. For some, the glass is filled with ice cubes first before pouring the drink. Those truly religious about the drink insist that ice must come last.

No one can clearly explain the difference, but theories abound. Some say arak is further weakened if the ice is already sitting in the glass.

Others say, don't question tradition.

The making of arak is a family affair, with secrets passed from one generation to another.

Central to the process is a triple distillation using a still called a "karakeh" in Arabic. The harvest is in September and October. The grapes are crushed and left to ferment for three weeks. The mix is then put in the lower part of the karakeh, where it is heated until it evaporates and cooled in the top part by a stream of cold water. At this stage, it is pure alcohol. Anise and water may be added in the second or third distillation. The mix is what makes each house's taste unique. Homemade arak usually goes straight into gallon containers after distillation, ready for drinking. In commercial production, the arak sits in clay jugs for a year, making it smoother, Issa said.

"Wine ages but arak rests," Issa said.

Issa's father introduced a new technique, letting it sit in the clay jugs for five years before going to market. Her family bought Doumaine de Tourelles 18 years ago and now it produces 350,000 bottles a year of Arak Brun, named after the Frenchman who founded it in 1868.

At the Taanayel festival, visitors sipped on the sweet drink with their meals.

Michel Sabat was marketing his new Arak al-Naim, or "Arak of Paradise." □



In this Saturday Sept. 8, 2018 photo, workers unload freshly picked grapes to be cleaned and begin the process that turns them into arak, Lebanon's national alcoholic drink, at the Doumaine de Tourelles winery, in the town of Chtaura east Lebanon.

Associated Press



In this Saturday Sept. 8, 2018 photo, a worker carries bag of anise that is used to produce arak, Lebanon's national alcoholic drink, at the Doumaine de Tourelles winery, in the town of Chtaura, east Lebanon.

Associated Press